

REPORT

ON

NATIVE PAPERS IN BENGAL

FOR THE

Week ending the 29th August 1908.

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I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.

THE *Namai Muqaddas Hablul Matin* [Calcutta] of the 17th August publishes a series of questions put by one of its representatives at Badkoba to Prince Ahmad Mirza, and the latter's replies thereto, in connection with the present affairs in Persia.

NAMAI MUQADDAS
HABLUL MATIN.
Aug. 17th, 1908.

Stray
views
on
Persian
politics.

To the question as to how Russia fared with respect to Persia, the Prince said:—

So long as Persia does not formally agree to the Anglo-Russian Convention which is, in fact, an imaginary dividing of Persia among the two Powers, the Convention will be of little avail, just as in the case of Afghanistan which has not yet recognised the sections relating to itself. It is apparent that the Persian Parliament by no means admits this proposition; on the contrary it has actually refused to do so. So long, therefore, as definite agreements, like a fresh loan, or the appointment of English or Russian Censorship on Persian Exchequer, will not be drawn up, their movements in their respective jurisdictions will not wear a political aspect. The Shah has given a firm promise to Russia to ratify the Convention, in the event of the latter giving him help to rule as an independent Suzerain, and also to contract a loan from both the allied Powers even with the appointment of a Censor on his Exchequer.

To the query about the Prince's opinion in respect of the Anglo-Russian Convention, he replied:—

This Convention, in the beginning, struck a heavy blow to Persian progress, and became the means of creating in her a hatred for the two allied Powers, to an extent that the Persians would not agree to the appointment of an individual of either nation as their sweeper. This Convention will greatly tend to England's disadvantage; and although the English entered into this Convention through fear of German influence in Central Asia and for keeping Russia in check, it will at last prove their wolf (*i.e.*, destroyer). Following the Convention, the Persians have tended to German politics, and the powerful, learned and influential among them have now set themselves to study it. Germany may possibly interfere with the Persian affairs. The Convention is not supposed to bring any real trouble to the Persians, on the other hand the Russians and the English have in a way deprived themselves of some of the distinguished privileges in several of the Persian territories, which they might otherwise have obtained. All this will conduce to the advantage of their rival Germany. The Convention has afforded a vast arena of rivalry in Persia between Germany and Turkey on one side and Russia and England on the other. The latter has narrowed down its field owing to the Convention, while the former has before it an unlimited field for exertion.

2. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 21st August comments on the uneasiness expressed by the *Novoe Vremya* of St. Petersburg at the earnestness of the Germans in establishing a Bank at Tebriz and introducing their trade in Persia. They are trying, it is said, to convene an International Meeting of the European Powers to settle their commercial difficulties in Persia as they did in Morocco. This supposition may not be untrue, as Russia and England only have the monopoly of trade in Persia.

HITAVADI.
Aug. 21st, 1908.

3. Referring to the constitution in Turkey, the *Mihir-o-Sudhakar* [Calcutta] of the 21st August is highly pleased to observe, that at a time when a political storm was raging high and disturbing the internal peace of the dominion, the Sultan of Turkey was shrewd enough to make a valuable present to his subjects in the form of a Parliament. We can now safely predict that the new light of liberty which has dawned upon Turkey will enlighten the entire Moslem world. It will be a sight to see when in the coming spring the new Parliament will sit, and Turkish members will commence deliberations concerning the administration of their country.

MIHIR-O-SUDHAKAR,
Aug. 21st, 1908.

It is to be wondered that along with the grant of Parliament, the Sultan has also granted the liberty of the Press. The administrative changes in Turkey are so sudden and amazing, that they recall to mind the stories of

the Arabian Nights. The Muhammadans are sending prayers to God for showering blessings on their great Sultan, who has truly acted in accordance with the teachings of our religious text, and is quite able to restore the lost glory of Islam.

We are glad to learn that good feeling between the Sultan's Muhammadan and Christian subjects has been restored, and we shall be still more pleased to see friendship between the British and the Islamic power fully established.

NAMA-I MUQADDAS
HABUL MATIN,
Aug. 24th, 1908.

4. The *Nama-i-Muqaddas Habul Matin* [Calcutta] of the 24th August has a long article on the policy of the Powers and its ultimate result in Persia, striving as they

Persian politics. are to attain privileges conducive to their respective interests, from which the following extract is taken:—

For some years past Persia was known to be the field of rivalry between Russia and England. But for the last seven years there has appeared such an iron-handed rival of both on the field, that they have been obliged to make up their mutual differences, and to combine their strength against their new and powerful rival, viz., Germany. Germany has obtained concessions from the Ottoman Empire in respect of the Bagdad Railway, and widening the sphere of these concessions by undertaking the construction of roads, etc., has thereby made its position stronger. So long however as Russia had not become weak, the English were in hopes that the Russians would be sufficient to keep down the German influence in Persia, while the duty of the English lay in checking the progress of the Bagdad Railway, so as to prevent its access to the coast of the Persian Gulf. Since the defeat of Russia by Japan, Germany has obtained the privilege of opening a bank and a school in Persia; the English now realise that (this thread had some length) Russia alone would no longer be strong enough to keep down German influence in Persia. It was at this stage that the English entered into a convention with the Russians. All these movements of the English are for the sake of India. The British Government had to labour for about a century, in order to check the Russian progress towards India; it has now taken similar steps to keep Germany in check.

Practically two rival parties have been formed in Persia—England and Russia along with France, etc., form one party, while Germany and Turkey along with Austria, etc., form the other party. It is the result of this rivalry that no sooner the Turkish troops encroach upon the Persian territory than both the Russian and English Consuls adopt counter measures inasmuch as they consider the Turkish movement as being influenced by political intentions of Germany. On the other hand, as soon as the political movements of Russia are witnessed in Teheran and Tebriz, the Turks without the least delay try to baffle the Russians.

All the dreadful occurrences and bloodshed in Persia have been the outcome of the above rivalry, which tends to bring about a terrible anarchy in Persia, so as to afford the Powers a plea for calling an International Conference as they did in the case of Morocco. The Anglo-Russian Convention as regards Persia has been somewhat inopportune. The advantages accruing to the allied Powers out of this Convention are many. They have not only secured privileges for themselves in Persia, but have marked the limits beyond which Turkey and Germany are not to go. Both England and Russia are certain to obtain a majority of votes at the Conference, and are therefore anxious for one. It is for this reason that the daily paper *Novos Vremya*, which is an organ of the Russian Foreign Minister, has recommended the holding of a Conference; but the case of Morocco makes Germany more careful in acceding to the proposal. As Persia has no King of the kind to-day to confirm the terms of the conference as in Morocco, it is possible that they may resolve that since the Persian Parliament existed for two years without being able to better the condition of the country, and as the present King is, in addition to his being unfit to be a ruler, detested by the Nation and condemned by the Ulamas (learned men), the Persians would do well to declare the heir-apparent to be the rightful King, and appoint a Regent. As for the reform of the country, they might be as suggested by the different Powers. At this stage an International loan may be contracted for carrying on the reforms. The future prospect of the country

will thus be far worse than that of Egypt, for if the representatives of the Powers differ on any point in connection with the reforms proposed for Persia, the Powers enjoying a majority would become the masters of the situation. This will involve the European Powers generally into a war, for Turkey and Germany will not brook to see even a small strip of the Persian land pass into the hands of Russia or England; for Persia for the present has gained such an importance both politically and commercially that any nation that acquires influence over it becomes paramount in Asia. Politicians are of opinion that the first engagement will take place between Turkey and Russia with an outbreak of a war in Asia Minor and its borders, and with the materials that are ready in Asia Minor, it will not be difficult for Turkey to overcome Russia. Moreover the Russian Muhammadans who are all dissatisfied with the tyrannical Government of Russia would join Turkey against Russia. The Persians also who consider themselves victims to Russia will by all means in their power help the Sultan. It is clear that in a war like this England and Germany will not stand aloof as mere spectators.

We fear an International Conference for settling the affairs of Persia more than we do a war. The interview of His Majesty King Edward VII at this crisis with the Emperors of Germany and Austria is not without a meaning, for we consider that the defeat of the Constitutionalists the immense loss and blood-shed are all due to these interviews intended to secure privileges for the various Powers, and to put a stop to German designs. Before the defeat of the Persian Constitutionalists, Russia and England used to work on this principle. They have got their proposals ready for the confirmation of the Conference. Let us see if the other Powers, especially Germany, agree to it.

II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

(a)—Police

5. The *Khulnavasi* [Khulna] of the 15th August says:—

Dacoity in Basirhat.

A horrible dacoity took place recently in Tetulbaria, in the Basirhat subdivision. The villagers tried to resist the dacoits when they were decamping, but were not successful. Several dacoities have been committed in Basirhat within a few days. What is the local police doing?

KHULNAVASI,
Aug. 15th, 1908.

Murder committed at Khagra.

6. Referring to a murder committed at Khagra, the *Murshidabad Hitaishi* [Murshidabad] of the 19th August says:—

As the local police has not been successful in detecting the perpetrators of a few other similar crimes committed within the town, the people of the town are panic-stricken. We invite the attention of the authorities to this matter.

MURSHIDABAD
HITAISHI.
Aug. 19th, 1908.

The achievement of the
Khulna Police.

7. Referring to the arrest by the police of a boy of 7 years at Khulna for having a sword in his possession, the *Hitvarta* [Calcutta] of the 20th August has the following:—

HITVARTA,
Aug. 20th, 1908.

"The Khulna Police has in reality got a mental indigestion. It arrested a boy of 7 years, named, Panchanan Ray, for keeping an old rusty sword in his house, and sent him up for trial before Babu Hari Paddo Banerjee, Deputy Magistrate of the place. The accused's father died in April last, and the boy had no knowledge of the sword having been kept in his house. An Inspector and a Sub-Inspector of Police and two other persons were examined in Court, but no satisfactory evidence could be adduced as to the possession of the sword by the boy. He was therefore acquitted.

The paper sarcastically observes that peace might have been restored in the country by sending an infant boy of 7 years to jail, and remarks that it would be glad to hear of the promotion of the police which arrested the dreaded criminal, and of the degradation of the officer who acquitted him.

8. The *Jasohar* [Jessore] of the 20th August reports evidently on the authority of a correspondent that the Jhenidah

Anarchy in Jhenidah.

subdivision has been converted into a place where thefts, dacoities and murders are committed with impunity. No less

JASOHAR,
Aug. 20th, 1908.

than four or five murders have been committed during the past few months, and all sorts of crimes are on the increase. The latest crime of the quarter is the looting of the Harnakundu zamindari catchery by a band of forty or fifty dacoits. The *Naib* of the catchery saved his life by flight, while the other inmates of the place were more or less roughly handled, and the dacoits decamped with a small booty. The paper adds that the spirit of anarchy runs rampant in the Jhenidah subdivision, and appeals to Government to take prompt action to bring the offenders to justice.

JASOHAR,
Aug. 20th, 1908.

9. The *Jasohar* [Jessore] of the 20th August states, on the authority of a correspondent, that the house of the zaminder of Samta, as well as those of several

other respectable villagers, was searched by the police. It strongly objects to this process of house-searching. In these days some idlers actuated by no other motive than that of mischief and malice send anonymous communications to the police, and the police forthwith proceed to search houses of respectable persons. If this process continues, things will go very hard with the people. The paper hopes that the Government will not fail to do its duty in this matter, by getting at the mischief-makers and awarding them exemplary punishments.

NAYAK,
Aug. 22nd, 1908.

10. Our contemporary of the *Samay*, writes the *Nayak* [Calcutta] of the 22nd August, has been doing a signal service to the poorer classes by dwelling on the oppressive habits

of Kabuli money-lenders in the country. In Calcutta itself no less than 2,000 Kabulis live in Jorabagan, Rajabagan, Nebutala and other quarters. They give loans on hand-note to poor people, without ever enquiring as to whether they have the means of repaying them, and charge high interests on them, such as annas two per mensem per rupee. At the end of a month the money-lender appears at the poor debtor's door and presses him severely for interest. On the latter failing to meet the demand, the Kabuli goes so far as to take the law into his own hands and abuses and even thrashes the poor man. Some time ago Sir Robert Rampini sentenced one such Kabuli to a few years' rigorous imprisonment. In fact, the Kabuli oppressions can be compared to indigo oppressions. It behoves the authorities to save the poor people of the country from their clutches. Their conduct is beastly, and it is desirable that the attention of the Government should be drawn early to it.

DAILY HITAVADI,
Aug. 23rd, 1908.

11. Referring to the news published in the *Empire* regarding the contemplated prohibition of public meetings in Calcutta after dark, the *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 23rd August says:—

The Police authorities are going to stop public meetings after dark, on the plea that stones are thrown at Europeans at that hour. "The King can do no wrong." Then what is the use of the plea of stone-throwing?

(b)—Working of the Courts.

HITAVADI,
Aug. 21st, 1908.

12. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 21st August writes that the recent interpretation of sections 124A and 153A of the Indian Penal Code by Mr. Pinhey stamps him as an incomparably shining light in the world of legal exposition. If the High Court at Madras upholds his interpretations, then it would mean the strangling not only of the entire journalism of the country, but of all forms of political agitation. A veritable sword of Damocles would be kept constantly suspended over the heads of all publicists in this country.

Mr. Pinhey did not deem it necessary, for reasons which are obvious, to insist on a fresh Government sanction for the prosecution of Chidambaram Pillay on the second charge of abetting S. Siva in preaching sedition. Again, in spite of the fact that Siva repeatedly denied that he was a tool of Pillay, Mr. Pinhey, merely on the assertion of the police, held that he was. The accuracy of the police reports of Pillay's speech was challenged, but the witnesses brought forward for the defence in this connexion were disbelieved by Mr. Pinhey, merely because they had sympathised with Bepin Chandra Pal in his incarceration.

Mr. Pinhey has been promoted to the High Court Bench, evidently as a reward of his action in this case. His idea evidently is that in section

124A the term 'Government' is co-extensive with the entire European community in India. Herein he only voices the popular idea that every Englishman in India is a Raja.

Briefly put, the following is the sequence of Mr. Pinhey's logic :—(1) to sympathise with a man convicted of sedition is seditious ; (2) making political speeches is also seditious ; (3) Government means the European community in India both official and unofficial.

13. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 21st August writes that the absolutely merciless and terrible sentence which has been passed on Durga Charan Sanyal has astounded the people of the country. The case is looked on by

The case of Durga Charan Sanyal.

them as only a particularly glaring example of the miscarriage of justice of the sort which often occurs in the inferior Courts of this land. Many Europeans even have expressed dissatisfaction at this judgment and it may be said without exaggeration that Mr. Justice Brett has succeeded in bringing the High Court into a disrepute, from which Mr. Justice Fletcher's judgment in the case of *B. K. Rai Chaudhuri versus L. O. Clarke* lately had rescued it for a time at least.

It cannot be doubted that if the accused in this case had been a European, or if Europeans had not been complainants in this case, no High Court Judge would have ventured to set aside repeated expressions of opinion by jurors and assessors, as well as by a High Court Judge, in favour of the accused.

The jury system must be held to be a farce in this country after this. In Mr. Tilak's case, the majority verdict of the jury is accepted with alacrity and in this case the majority opinion of two sets of jurors and assessors is rejected. Again, in the acid throwing outrage case, twice the jurors held the accused innocent and it was only when a third set of jurors brought in a verdict of guilty that the Judge could accept the verdict. But has any High Court Judge yet been known to have disregarded the verdict of a European jury in this fashion? Can anybody be held blameworthy if, after all this, he says that in this country there is one law for the European and another for the Indian?

Mr. Justice Brett came to the conclusion that Durga Charan's mind had been unbitten by the many bereavements he had passed through. How then could he have the heart to award such an inhuman sentence? Would not the law have been equally vindicated if a mild sentence had been passed? Would not His Lordship have shown himself more humane if he had deferred passing sentence until he had satisfied himself of the sanity of the accused?

In truth, this sentence passed by the highest court in the land leaves one with a feeling of despair. Mr. Justice Brett had no evidence before him that Durga Charan was an Extremist or a Terrorist or in any way had any animus against Europeans and yet His Lordship held that he entered into the carriage with intent to assault Coates and Smart. The *kukri* with which he is alleged to have struck at the Europeans was not satisfactorily proved to be his and in fact a *kukri* is not a thing a Bengali often carries with him, even though some of them may possess one. Moreover the *kukri* case which was produced in Court did not fit that *kukri*. All these points suggest that the aggressive in the assault was taken by Coates and Smart who took Durga Charan to be a train thief. Why again was Smart not compelled to come and stand a cross-examination by the accused's counsel? All the incidents in this case are extraordinary and an appeal to the Privy Council may therefore bear fruit. If it does not, then woe to the good repute of the British Courts of Justice in the land.

14. The *Samay* [Calcutta] of the 21st August writes, that on the allegation of the police having been stoned at the

Strange order of Mr. Thornhill.

Parsi-Bagan on the day of the boycott celebration, the Chief Presidency Magistrate, Mr. Thornhill, passed a strange order (under section 144 of the Criminal Procedure Code) on the leaders of the Jorabagan *swadeshi* meeting, which was to be held on Wednesday last, to the effect that no meeting would be allowed after 5-55 P.M., as breach of the peace and danger to human life were apprehended. We do not believe that the police were stoned at the Jorabagan meeting. What are these insinuations for? The

HITAVADI,
Aug. 21st, 1908.

SAMAY,
Aug. 21st, 1908.

Magistrate may plainly pass orders prohibiting meetings in the Squares. That would set matters at rest.

BANGAVASI,
Aug. 22nd, 1908.

15. The *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 22nd August, in noticing the Muktears' representation to the officiating Chief Justice of Bengal, detailing a series of serious

disadvantages they are labouring under, incidentally mentions the recent ruling of the Allahabad High Court to the effect that no Muktear will be allowed to practice in any Court without special permission. It adds that in this poor country Muktears are a necessary body, and hopes the Chief Justice will give a thought to this point.

BANGAVASI,
Aug. 22nd, 1908.

16. The *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 22nd August notices the observations made by "Max" in *Capital* on the case of Durga Charan Sanyal, and thinks that he has made

out the following points:—

(1) Two young stalwart Europeans jointly assaulted an old man of 60, simply because he entered their compartment by mistake.

(2) There was a lady passenger in the next compartment who saw the old man bundled out of the compartment almost like a dead man.

(3) Justices Brett and Ryves have accepted the statements of Messrs. Coats and Smart as Gospel truths, but the public agreeing with the opinions of the assessors at Bogra, Mr. Justice Woodroffe and the Alipore jurors, will accept Durga Charan's statement as truth.

(4) *Kukri* is not used by the Bengali, but Europeans take it as a "curio," and it is one of the articles which European travellers to Darjeeling bring with them.

(5) At the last trial Mr. Smart was absent, and from beginning to end the case was enveloped in doubts.

(6) If there was ever a case which needed to be taken to the Privy Council it is this. Sir Andrew Fraser, observes the paper, ought to immediately release old Durga Charan, who is verging on his grave. The paper enquires whether Max's observations will reach the ears of His Honour.

BHARAT MITRA,
Aug. 22nd, 1908.

17. The *Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 22nd August notices the disparity between the punishments to which Fireman Davis was sentenced for the murder of a

punkha coolie, and the old Brahmin pleader for simple hurt to a European. The one received only a month's imprisonment and a fine of a hundred rupees, while the other was given four years' hard labour.

BHARAT MITRA,
Aug. 22nd, 1908.

18. Regarding the "Kushtea attempt to murder case," the *Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 22nd August observes that the police implicated two young innocent men in

this case, simply because of their being the followers of *swadeshi*. People are therefore grateful to the Sessions Judge and the jury from the bottom of their heart for the impartial decision in the case.

HINDHUSTHAN,
Aug. 22nd, 1908.

19. Referring to the conviction of Athiraj Surendra Nath Ayre and the sentence of transportation for five years passed on him, the *Hindhusthan* [Calcutta] on the 22nd August expresses its wonder at the heaviness of the

sentence passed on the accused, whom, it says, even an English clergyman declared in the Court while giving deposition to be an honest man, so honest that it was impossible to believe him to have preached or spread disloyalty among the people. The paper next goes on to say that convictions of such men are only diminishing the faith of the people in the decisions of the Courts of Justice, and remarks that by passing sentences for long terms, the Judges are only helping the Government who have adopted a stringent policy for suppressing the disaffection in the country. It concludes by saying that it has been so, because politics now influences the administration of justice.

HOWRAH HITAIISHI,
Aug. 22nd, 1908.

20. The *Howrah Hitaiishi* [Howrah] in a leading article in its issue of the 22nd August strongly expresses itself on the

judgment passed by the High Court in the case of Durga Charan Sanyal. While holding it to be an instance of flagrant injustice of a sort rarely to be found in any British Court of Law, it makes a comparison between a few Anglo-Indian papers and *Capital*, the *Indian Daily News* and the whole of the

Indian Press. It can never approve of the punishment of the old man, and characterises the final decision of the case as staggering, and the punishment of the accused as a monstrous one. The paper makes much of the opinion of *Capital* on the case, and indulges in a lengthy analysis to prove the improbabilities of the details and the injustice that has been done to the man. *Capital* is credited with having given expression to the public sentiment on the case; and the writer also says, that the result has been so distressing, that a European gentleman has come forward with a promise to pay 500 towards any fund that may be started to help Babu Durga Charan or his family. Papers like the *Asian* and several other Anglo-Indian dailies of Calcutta, Lahore and Bombay come in for their share of strong condemnation at the hands of the paper, and the murder of an inoffensive coolie by a soldier at Simla is attributed to the writings of the *Asian*. The writer concludes with the details of the public meeting that was held in honour of Durga Charan Sanyal, and hopes that Durga Charan's countrymen will do something for him.

21. Referring to the sentence of one month's imprisonment and a fine of Rs. 100 passed upon Railway Guard Drivers for causing the death of a *punkha* coolie at Delhi, the *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 24th August observes, that such a punishment for such an offence must be regarded as sufficient, for it was only a *kala admi* who died. There is nothing to be surprised at in this, says the writer.

DAILY HITAVADI,
Aug. 24th, 1908.

22. Hearing as a rumour that Mr. Carnduff, who sentenced Khudiram Bose to capital punishment, is going to be appointed as a Judge of the Calcutta High Court in place of Justice Rampini, retired, the *Hindi Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 24th August exclaims: "Mr. Kingsford is now a Sessions Judge; Mr. Pinhey, a Judge of the High Court; why should then Mr. Carnduff be left out (from obtaining promotion)?"

HINDI BANGAVASI,
Aug. 24th, 1908.

(c)—Jails.

23. Referring to the sentence, 4 years' hard labour passed by the High Court of Calcutta on a pleader of Bogra, named Babu Durga Charan Sanyal, the *Bihar Bandhu* [Bankipore] of the 22nd August 1908 says:—

BIHAR BANDHU,
Aug. 22nd, 1908.

Who is the man who has not been touched at this sentence on a Brahmin old pleader of 60? One who has the slightest sense of humanity in him, must shed tears at it. Many of the Anglo-Indians, not to speak of the Hindus of the country, have been pained by this sentence of the High Court.

(d)—Education.

24. The *Jasohar* [Jessore] of the 20th August has the following:—
The enforcement of the Risley Circular. Hitherto the Risley Circular remained as a sort of dead letter, but it seems the Government is now desirous of giving full effect to it. The City College has been the first object of its attention, with the result that the authorities of the institution asked Babu Krishna Kumar Mitra, editor, *Sanjivani*, to sever his connection with the college, and that because he joins in all the political movements of the country. Babu Krishna Kumar Mitra forthwith sent in his resignation. The paper hopes that others will follow the example of Babu Krishna Kumar Mitra.

JASOHAR,
Aug. 20th, 1908.

25. The *Jasohar* [Jessore] of the 20th August, in noticing that two students who passed the F. A. Examination last year from the Brajamohan Institution, Barisal, as also the student who stood first in the Entrance Examination from the same institution, did not receive scholarships, though entitled to them, enquires whether a knowledge of politics does not constitute a part of education. It seems the Brajamohan Institution will shortly have to sever its connection with the University. A system of education which stands in the way of the development of manhood will be welcomed by nobody. Education is being fast officialised, and the action of the authorities in the field of education can be

JASOHAR,
Aug. 20th, 1908.

characterised as that of the blackest type. Before long the people will learn to despise the present system of education.

SANDHYA,
Aug. 20th, 1908.

26. Referring to the Agricultural Colleges at Pusa and Sabour, the *Sandhya* [Calcutta] of the 20th August says, that the Government should send the particulars of those Colleges to both the Bengali and Hindi newspapers for publication. The Government should also let us know how far the works have advanced, and what will be the subjects of study. In that case we may give our opinion on the matter. There will not be any want of students, if we are convinced that the motive for founding the colleges is good and the work will proceed satisfactorily. As the money spent in founding the colleges is ours, it is not unnatural that we should like to be acquainted with the cost and the object of the institutions.

HITAVADI,
Aug. 21st, 1908.

27. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 21st August expresses the opinion that the Ranchi College will not be a model institution of the kind Sir Andrew Fraser desired to make it. But all the same, it will be a first class residential college with boarding-houses attached to it, and both the students and Professors will live together. Then it writes deprecating the present Maharaj Adhiraj of Burdwan's donation of a lakh of rupees towards the College building fund, and observes that a Maharaja who before long abolished free education in the college endowed by his ancestors, has paid rupees one lakh for the Ranchi College. This is surprising enough for the writer, who adds that the Maharaja abolished free education in his own college to please the authorities, and his gift of a lakh of rupees has been made with the view of keeping his "relation with the British Raj friendly and cordial."

BASUMATI,
Aug. 22nd, 1908.

28. Referring to the sanction accorded to the Ranchi College scheme by the Secretary of State for India, and the donation of a lakh of rupees by the Maharaj-Adhiraj of Burdwan for the same, the *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 22nd August remarks:—We have no doubt that this new workshop of the Lieutenant-Governor will turn out countless curious specimens of humanity like the Maharaj Adhiraj.

SANDHYA,
Aug. 22nd, 1908.

29. The *Sandhya* [Calcutta] of the 22nd August writes that Srijut Krista Kumar Mitra and Srijut Surendra Nath Banerjee have been obliged to resign their teacherships, owing to the Risley Circular. But how can Srijut Nagendra Nath Ghose continue in his Principalship, being the editor of the *Indian Nation*? We suppose political writing, if favourable to the Government, is no bar to Professorship.

(e)—Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.

JASOHAR,
Aug. 20th, 1908.

30. The *Jasohar* [Jessore] of the 20th August, while writing on behalf of the teachers of the lower grade schools of the district, makes out a strong point in favour of these men. The Jessore District Board has curtailed the grants-in-aid of almost all Upper and Lower Primary schools of the district by Re. 1 or Rs. 2 in every case. This curtailment will entail great hardship on the low-paid teachers. The paper makes a comparison of the action of the Board with that of the Government, which having regard to the high prices of food-stuffs have granted a grain allowance to their employes. The paper hopes that the authorities will reconsider their decision and do justice to the low-paid teachers.

HITAVADI,
Aug. 21st, 1908.

31. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 21st August, in referring to the health of the rural population, observes that to look after the health of the subject-people should be the principal function of a Government; but it is to be regretted that our rulers often forget this duty. Nothing worthy of mention has yet been done to prevent the spread of malaria and cholera which are devastating the country, though lots of money have been spent for the prevention of plague. After continued agitation in the Press, some money

has been allotted to sanitary purposes, but the amount of allotment is too insufficient to deserve any mention. To save the lives of the people by effecting sanitary improvements of the most urgent character, is as much an essential part of the duty of the Government as the saving of men from death by starvation during famine period. The Police reform scheme and construction of railways are costing a mint of money; but when the question of public sanitation presents itself, the financial difficulties stand in the way. This is sickening indeed, and the policy does not befit the Government. The paper hopes that this year the Bengal Government will pay more attention to this question of sanitation.

32. Referring to the two cases which have recently occurred of a Bengali youth named Rajani Kanta Basu and a European named Mackillarny being run over by tram-cars in Calcutta, the *Sandhya* [Calcutta] of the 26th August says, that in view of the frequency of such cases, it is necessary that the Police Commissioner and the Municipality of Calcutta should take early steps for the prevention of such accidents.

SANDHYA,
Aug. 26th, 1908.

(g)—*Railways and Communications including Canals and Irrigation.*

33. Many local passengers have complained, writes the *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 22nd August, of great inconvenience on account of the No. 5 Up Express train not stopping at Serampore and Chundernagore since 1st August. It is hoped that the General Traffic Manager will take steps to remove this inconvenience of the passengers.

DAILY HITAVADI,
Aug. 22nd, 1908.

34. A correspondent of the *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 22nd August draws attention to the injury to the paddy in the villages of Chakur, Kalyanpur, Bainan, etc., within the Bagnan thana, district Howrah, caused by rain water. All the sluice-gates, except the one at Berampore, are unserviceable. But this one is not sufficient to drain all the rain water that accumulates in the fields into the river Domodar. The attention of the Subdivisional Officer of Uluberia and the District Magistrate is drawn to the importance of another sluice-gate.

DAILY HITAVADI,
Aug. 22nd, 1908.

(h)—*General.*

35. The *Ekata* [Calcutta] of the 7th August says, that nine compositors of the 28th section of the Government Printing of India have been dismissed without any explanation being called for from them. When the strike was going on, the Hon'ble Mr. Hewett passed a ruling that nobody would be punished without a hearing. But the ruling is overlooked in the case of the compositors. Is this the manner in which Englishmen observe rules and regulations?

EKATA,
Aug. 28th, 1908.

The office of the Government Printing had half holiday on the day of the late *Bath-jatra*, and a full-holiday on the birthday of the Emperor. But some compositors filled up the hour slip for works on those days. On account of this mistake committed quite unwittingly, the compositors have been degraded and some section-holders have been otherwise punished. The punishment is indeed too heavy for the accidental mistake.

The printers of the India Press are very poorly paid. They are distressed on account of the dearness of food-stuffs, and have sent petitions to Mr. Gait informing him of their miseries. We wait to see the reply.

36 The *Hitvarta* [Calcutta] of the 20th August is at a loss to understand the advantages likely to accrue to the Muhammadans from their disunion with their Hindu brethren. The Muhammadans rejoice at the partition of Bengal and think that the measure has done them good. The paper holds that it has not been productive of any good to either party; it has on the other hand imposed additional expenditure

HITVARTA,
Aug. 20th, 1908.

All-India Muhammadan League
on a separate High Court for East
Bengal.

on the country on account of increase in the staff of officers for the new province. The All-India Muhammadan League has gone so far as to apply to Government for a separate High Court for East Bengal. A prayer like the above cannot emanate but from one devoid of sense, as it is a known fact that the High Court exercises a check over the vagaries of officials.

The paper is unable to say how long the Muhammadans are to be puppets in the hands of the authorities. It has, however, every sympathy with their other prayer, viz., their representation in the Viceroy's Council.

SANJIVANI,
Aug. 20th, 1903.

Government on the arrest of
Panchanan Tarkaratna.

37. Referring to the reply given by the Hon'ble Mr. Streatfeild to the question asked by the Hon'ble Babu Kishori Mohan Goswami, in connection with the arrest of Pandit Panchanan Tarkaratna of Bhatpara, the *Sanjivani*

[Calcutta] of the 20th August writes :—

Did not Government feel ashamed to give such a reply? What Mr. Streatfeild said, implies that the police can search the house of any person and send him to *hajrat* on receipt of any information against him. Spies and informers have filled the country. Are the reports of such men to be accepted as gospel truths, and are respectable men to be sent to jail on such reports? His Honour may do what he pleases, but the unrest that will be created by such procedure must be formidable.

HITAVADI,
Aug. 21st, 1903.

The Indian Administration
Jubilee.

38. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 21st August says that the fifty years' rule in India directly under the Crown will be celebrated on the 1st of November next. It is stated in some quarters that having regard to the present state of the country and the prevalence of widespread famine, the celebration will neither be so costly nor of such grandeur as was the Delhi Durbar during Lord Curzon's Viceroyalty. It is also expected that the celebration day will be an epoch-making day for India and the long expected boons to be conferred on the people will be announced on that day. The paper says that the dilatory character of the official actions in regard to this matter, does not inspire it with the hope that the people will be granted any substantial boon so soon. The zeal for prosecutions taken with the arrangements for the 1st of November celebration, makes the whole thing appear mysterious to the writer.

HITAVADI,
Aug. 21st, 1903.

A new member of Council.

39. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 21st August expresses its satisfaction at the election of the Raja of Mohammadabad (Oudh), as the representative of the non-official members of the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh Provincial Council, in the Supreme Legislative Council. The paper adds that before this no Muhammadan nobleman of the Province was honoured in this way and hopes that the elected nobleman by his independent and impartial action in the Council will add lustre to the Muhammadan community.

SAMAY,
Aug. 21st, 1903.

The rumoured promotion of
Mr. Carnduff.

40. The *Samay* [Calcutta] of the 21st August hears that Sir Robert Rampini, the officiating Chief Justice of the Calcutta High Court, is going to be succeeded by Mr. Carnduff, the District Judge of Patna. Considering the present attitude of the Government, there is nothing strange in the rumour. Mr. Pinhey will shortly be elevated to the High Court bench of Madras, simply because he managed to pass heavy sentences on Pillay and others. The specialty of Mr. Carnduff is that he received applause by sending Khudiram Bose to the gallows. We anxiously wait, however, to see whether or no the rumour comes true.

SANDHYA,
Aug. 21st, 1903.

Lord Morley's proposed re-
forms.

41. The *Sandhya* [Calcutta] of the 21st August writes :— Lord Curzon said that the Queen's Proclamation was no better than a hoax. We call it a *makal* fruit, a veritable Dead Sea apple. It served to keep the country quiet for 50 years. Lord Morley, as clever a statesman as Lord Derby was, proposes to give us another Dead Sea apple, probably on the 1st November next, which perhaps will keep India quiet for another 50 years.

BANGAVASI,
Aug. 22nd, 1903.

Interpellation in the Kankinara
arrest case.

42. The *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 22nd August expresses itself rather strongly on the case of the arrests in connection with the Kankinara bomb outrage case. Rai Bahadur Hon'ble Kishori Mohan Goswami's interpellation on

the arrest of Pandit Panchanan Tarkaratna elicited the reply from Hon'ble Mr. Streatfeild that if any "respectable" person is seriously suspected of a crime and the evidence against the "suspect" is available, another respectable person cannot escape arrest simply on the score of his respectability, and that immediate action becomes necessary in such a case. The paper indignantly points out the alleged unsatisfactory character of Government's reply, and goes on to enquire if it was not the duty of the Government to give a fair reply to a question in connection with a matter which has filled the whole country with indignation. Will not a reply like this increase terror in the public mind? The paper does not understand how the Government can establish peace in the country by terrorising people in this way.

43. The *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 22nd August thinks the reply given by the Hon'ble Mr. Streatfeild in Council in connection with the arrest of Pandit Panchanan Tarkaratna of Bhatpara to be unsatisfactory. Mr. Secretary Streatfeild speaks of "evidence" in the case, which, however, evaporated even before the case was taken up for trial. Is it just or lawful to harass respectable men on such flimsy evidence?

The question of the arrest of Pandit Panchanan Tarkaratna in the Bengal Council.

44. In tracing the development of the present situation, the *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 22nd August writes as follows:—

Forgetting that the sovereignty of India was gained with the consent and help of the Indians, and that unless based upon the good will of the governed it cannot be permanent, the English expect to govern the millions of this vast Continent with the help of cannon and muskets. They forget that brute force is nothing compared with moral force. Take the case of the Punjab. The trouble that arose there was put down, not by deporting two Indian leaders, but by vetoing the obnoxious piece of legislation which led to the trouble. The pity of it is that the Government has not at all profited by its experience. The fire that has been kindled, can only be extinguished by sympathy. There are indeed a few officials here and there who have perceived the true remedy. But the majority of them are still labouring under serious misapprehensions, and have so to speak undertaken a journey the destination of which is unknown. The ignorant vanity which impelled Sir Harvey Adamson to declare that the English are not afraid to drive disaffection underground, has induced the officials to abandon the easy path of conciliation, and take to the path of repression which is so full of dangers. This jumping into the unknown by the responsible rulers has alarmed us too. Sympathy, we repeat, is the true and only remedy.

45. Referring to the speeches recently delivered by His Honour Sir John Hewett, in the Durbars at Agra and Lucknow, on Indian unrest, the *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 22nd August has the following:—

Our surprise is as great as our despair to see Sir John Hewett, calm, collected and high-minded as His Honour is, follow the same path as is being followed by the generality of people. There is unrest in India no doubt. But even if a handful of men revolted against the Government, it would be unfair to treat such an incident as a widespread revolution. The Government of India, however, fancies that the bomb-conspiracy marks the beginning of an all-India revolutionary movement, and has therefore adopted a vigorous policy. The Government has thus ceased to trust the people, and the contagion of distrust and suspicion has spread to all the Provinces of India. Sir John says that the virus of sedition has entered his own Province also, and that he can no longer afford to be a silent spectator, but must take vigorous action and root out sedition.

Sir John holds the people of the United Provinces guilty for not informing Government of such a notorious preacher of sedition as Hotilal of Aligarh. Perhaps the people did not even hear of Hotilal; or it may be, they regarded him as quite an insignificant person who could do little or no injury to the Government. To hold the people guilty of a culpable omission in such a case as this is manifestly unjust. Trust begets trust. If for such a trifling cause Government does not hesitate to paint the people black, then, farewell to all confidence between the people and the Government.

BASUMATI,
Aug. 22nd, 1908.

BASUMATI,
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Aug. 22nd, 1908.

Again, those worthless people, mere puppets and *apkwastes*, whom Government take for the representatives of the people, have really no connection whatever with them. Government does not trust those independent-spirited and self-respecting men who are the true leaders of the people, and cannot therefore profit by their advice. For this estrangement Government itself is responsible.

Sir John says he is firmly resolved to root out sedition from his Province. Nobody can take exception to this very laudable resolve on his part so becoming a ruler. Our only regret is that His Honour proposes to treat the symptoms unmindful of the real malady. According to the usual custom he holds the native newspapers mainly responsible for the spread of sedition and revolutionary sentiments. We shall not protest, as we know that our protest will only be a cry in the wilderness. Henceforward we shall give up politics, seeing that politics is not a safe subject to write upon; and we shall write about the mosquito. Unfortunate is the country whose rulers have no confidence in its newspapers, their only faithful friends. The future of such a country must be involved in utter darkness.

BIHAR BANDHU,
Aug. 22nd, 1908.

46. Referring to the Proclamation of 1858 issued by the late Queen Victoria and the desire of some people to hold a Jubilee to commemorate it the *Bihar Bandhu* [Bankipore] of the 22nd August observes that the right way to commemorate it is for the people to try to obtain the rights of equality for all subjects promised in the Proclamation but have not yet been granted.

BIHAR BANDHU,
Aug. 22nd, 1908.

47. In course of a long article on the present condition of the Indian people, the *Behar Bandhu* [Bankipur] of the 22nd August quotes an extract from one of Lala Lajpat Rai's speeches, which runs thus:—

"An Englishman hates or dislikes nothing like beggary. I think a beggar deserves to be hated. Therefore it is our duty to show to the Englishman that we have risen to the sense of consciousness that we are no longer beggars, and that we are the subjects of an Empire where people are struggling to attain to that position, which is their right to get at by rights of natural law."

The paper then proceeds as follows:—

Every word of Lala Lajpat Rai deserves our consideration. It is a fact that mere beggary has never been a source of progress in any nation. What I mean is that the Indian National Congress has been [begging and political leaders have been agitating in the country for so long a time, but no advantage has yet come to light. It is expedient therefore to resort to other simple measures to gain our object. These are—

- (1) to give up the political agitation; and
- (2) to give up the education which has led them astray from their ancestral policy of learning the history of their own nation.

To quote Babu Bipin Chandra Pal, "we ought to give up that sort of education which has infused in us the habit of slavery." We should stick to our own religion and never interfere with another's. We should be truly patriotic in our feelings and be devoted to our country. We should also try to have one language for India, and that, the Hindi language, which is already spoken and understood by the majority of Indians. And last of all we should spread the *swadeshi* cult throughout the country by giving *swadeshi* education to our children: for want of this education is the cause of all our troubles, famine, plague, etc.

DAILY HITAVADI,
Aug. 22nd, 1908.

48. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 22nd August writes:—

From Sir Frederick Halliday down to Sir John Woodburn, no Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal ever complained that the Province was too large for him to administer. It was the last named officer who is said to have laid down his life in his attempt to cope with an amount of work to which one man's energy is believed to be wholly inadequate.

We have observed that the health of Lieutenant-Governors is generally bad. They are rarely free from petty ailments. What can be the cause of this?

After a service of 30 years, an Indian is obliged to retire on pension, as Government does not consider him any longer fit for service. But strange to say this maxim is entirely lost sight of when Government appoints a Lieutenant-Governor. It is not difficult to imagine what the state of health of a European Civilian must be after a service of 30 to 35 years in the climate of a hot country like India. It may be urged in favour of a Civilian Lieutenant-Governor that the experience he gathers during his long service must give him a great advantage over a Governor without such experience. But this argument does not seem to be at all a strong one. The sort of experience which Civilians usually gain is not a fruit of personal knowledge. Living as they do entirely apart from the people, they can not gain any insight into their usages and customs. There is a great difference between ordinary officials and a Governor. The latter should be a man capable of keeping strict watch on officials and the police, who are usually entrusted with large powers. A Magistrate, when he comes to be the Lieutenant-Governor, cannot divest himself of his earlier prejudices, and must therefore entertain a special liking for the police. As long as the heads of Government will be recruited from old Civilians, so long will they fail to discharge their duties properly.

Everybody must have found how an English official fresh from England is free from any bias or partiality for his own countrymen. The same official becomes a different man after a residence of a few years in India.

It is an admitted fact that the administration of Bengal has become much more complex than before owing to the increase of the population and a wider spread of education and culture among them. It is therefore important that a young, industrious, enthusiastic and impartial man should be at the head of the Government in this Province. The practice of appointing young or elderly Governors, as it obtains in Bombay and Madras, should be introduced here in Bengal also. It is easy to see why an old Civilian Lieutenant-Governor should break down under the pressure of his work. A remedy for this state of things can only be found in a Governor for the two Bengals. An old, effete Civilian Lieutenant Governor must prove a failure even if the country were partitioned into a hundred parts.

DAILY HITAVADI,
Aug. 22nd, 1906.

49. Referring to the address presented to Sir Andrew Fraser by the people of Bihar, and the loyalty manifesto issued by them, the *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 22nd August has the following:—

That Sir Andrew Fraser should have expressed great sympathy for the Biharis, was quite natural. For did not the Biharis make an attempt to have His Honour's term of office extended? It is inconceivable why a "manifesto," which is meant for the public, was presented along with the address. It was probably thought that such a combination would enhance the value of the address.

In the address, the Biharis complained that the Bengalis were given preference to the Biharis, and His Honour was all sympathy. He admitted that injustice was really done to them, and enunciated the principle that all public officers in any Province, to be of real service to it, should be able to speak the language of that Province. It must be said that His Honour was quite right. That Biharis will make better officers in Bihar than Bengalis, is indeed true. But His Honour's dictum is not free from defect. For if Bengalis be declared incompetent to serve in Bihar, how can Europeans be competent to serve there? Do not Englishmen, Scotchmen and Irishmen occupy all the highest offices in Bihar? Even the Managers of zemindaris under Government control are Europeans. The Manager and the Sub-Manager of the Durbhanga Raj are Europeans. The most curious part of the story is that even the Maharaja of Durbhanga, who is so fond of maintaining Europeans, is up in arms against the Bengalis. It will thus be seen that the principle enunciated by His Honour, though very good for the Biharis, is gall and worm-wood to Europeans. His Honour gave a very valuable advice to the Biharis when he said: "It is a miserable thing when the community is broken up into sects and cliques, when different classes seek each its own interests, and when the common welfare of the people is forgotten"—an advice which we hope the Biharis will lay to heart.

HINDUSTHAN,
Aug. 22nd, 1908.

50. Referring to the suspension of Avinash Chandra Bhattacharya, First Munsif of Narayanganj, by the order of the High Court, the *Hindusthan* [Calcutta] of the 22nd August says:—

The people of Narayanganj as well as we are sorry for the suspension of Avinash Babu, who has all along administered justice boldly, equitably and impartially, and has won the approbation of all by his gentlemanly behaviour. We hear that he will also be soon arrested and committed for trial on the strength of the evidence of Narendra Goswami, the approver in the bomb case at Alipore.

The paper asks, is it proper for the Government to proceed with the prosecution of the Munsif solely on the assertion of Narendra Nath?

HINDUSTHAN,
Aug. 22nd, 1908.

51. The *Hindusthan* [Calcutta] of the 22nd August cites the opinions and remarks of *Capital* and the *Indian Daily News* on

Durga Charan's release recommended.

Durga Charan's conviction, and advises the Government to release the accused in consideration of the

doubtful character of the evidence adduced against him.

OWRAH HITAISHI,
Aug. 22nd, 1908.

52. The *Howrah Hitaishi* [Howrah] of the 22nd August in a leading

Increase in the salary of clerks.

article pleads the cause of the clerks employed in Government offices all over India. The Government has, on the representation of clerks employed in the Government offices at Simla, appointed a Committee to enquire into the grievances of clerks. But this paper has no faith in the utility of Committees and Commissions of this kind, and by way of illustration it mentions the Welby Commission. The majority of middle class men earn their living as clerks. The changed mode of living and the high prices of food-stuffs and other necessities of life have made it altogether impossible for them to make both ends meet. The scale of pay was fixed so far back as half-a-century before. The question of raising the scale was mooted more than once, but it never passed the stage of discussion. A Commission was appointed in 1885. They arrived at the decision that clerks should be given a higher rate of pay, but nothing practical was done. Twenty years afterwards another Salary Commission, under the presidency of Mr. Slacke, sat to deliberate on the same question. This was in 1905. The Commission submitted its recommendations, the nature of which can never be known to the public. The only result of these recommendations would seem to be the granting of grain allowances of Rs. 5-10 to clerks on Rs. 20 and less than Rs. 30 employed in offices under Commissioners and Magistrates. The Government of Bengal in the budgets of the year 1906-07 and 1907-08 made allotment of a few thousands of rupees for clerks on Rs. 30 and above; but how the allotment was utilised nobody knows. This year's budget has an allotment of twenty-five thousands rupees for granting grain allowance to the clerks employed in the offices of six Commissioners of Divisions. However, no use has yet been made of this allotment.

The clerks in the office of the Accountant-General of the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh as well as of the offices under the Government of Panjab have also submitted representations to the authorities for increment in their pay. It is not unlikely that every Provincial Government will appoint a separate Enquiring Committee of its own. The paper does not approve of this, but suggests the appointment of a Committee comprehensive in its character and representing all the Provinces. The function of this Committee should be to go through the question of poverty of clerks in Government service in all parts of India. "Prices and wages in India" is an official publication, but the details of the publication prove one thing very clearly, namely, that the scale of the salaries of clerks ought to be raised. Sir Edward Baker in his last budget speech gave expression to admirable sentiments of sympathy for the middle class men of the country. Let us wait and see the consistency between his words and deeds.

KHULNAVASI,
Aug. 22nd, 1908.

53. A correspondence of the *Khulnavasi* [Khulna] of the 22nd August

A Munsiff required at Kaliganj.

pleads strongly in favour of the establishment of a Munsiff's Court at Kaliganj. He suggests that the jurisdiction of the proposed Munsiff's Court should comprise the four

police-stations of Asasuni, Kaliganj, Shamnagore and Debhatta. The distance between the Shamnagore thana and Satkhira subdivision is more than 76 miles, and one can very well imagine the difficulties and hardships which those inhabiting the remotest part of the thana have to undergo when they are required to attend the Munsiff's Court at Satkhira. Kaliganj is a thriving place of rising importance, and the opening of the Sunderbans for cultivation is not only adding to its importance as a centre of trade and commerce, but also adding largely to the number of inhabitants of that place and other places within the jurisdiction of the local police-station. Now that Khulna has got a District Judge of its own, the correspondent hopes that he as the judicial head of the district will look into the matter and see that Kaliganj gets a Munsiff's Court of its own before long.

54. Government has, at last, writes the *Nayak* [Calcutta] of the 22nd August, hit upon a good method of knocking the *swadeshi* on the head. The raiyat is often influenced by the zamindar, and the Eastern Bengal zamindar has in most cases turned out an advocate of the *swadeshi*. As an antidote to the consequent spread of the *swadeshi* spirit among the lower classes, Government is taking many a big estate in Eastern Bengal under the Court of Wards on one pretext or another. The case of one such estate in the Mymensingh district is now before the High Court.

NAYAK,
Aug. 22nd, 1908.

55. The *Sonar Bharat* [Howrah] of the 22nd August puts in a full translation of Mr. H. M. Hyndman's letter to the *London Times*, in which that gentleman freely speaks out his mind on the Tilak trial and the present situation of the country. The paper indulges in an analysis of the opinions of the politicians of the different schools of thought in England, and improves upon Mr. Hyndman in its own observations. It gives it as its opinion that the prophetic words of Mr. Hyndman will prove to be too true, and adds that Mr. Romesh Chandra Dutt in one of his Congress orations addressed his audience in similar language. He said if he were an enemy of the Government, he would have advised the latter to prohibit all conferences, meetings and lectures, and destroy the liberty of the Press. It will be seen that the Government has become so much devoid of all sense of right and wrong, that it is doing the very things its enemies would have suggested to it to do. The Government is now bent upon punishing both the evil-doer and him who speaks the truth. The paper has the pretention of being appreciated as a friend and well-wisher of the Government, and admits the benefits which has accrued to the people by their contact with the English. The writer professes himself to be a partisan of the British administration, and accepts the British rule as a decree of Heaven. But it is by an irony of fate that the rulers reject the best counsel offered to them, and pay no attention to public opinion.

SONAR BHARAT,
Aug. 22nd, 1908.

56. Referring to the present position of the compositors who were transferred from the Government of India Printing office to its Dhurrumtollah Branch, the *Ekata* [Calcutta] of the 24th August says:—

Ekata,
Aug. 24th, 1908.

There is no limit to the misery of the 20 compositors transferred. They have been isolated lest they should talk with each other. They have been given seats among Muhammadans, where it is impossible to have a water pot; so they have to drink hot tap-water. The foreman Munshi of this Branch office is very rude, abuses the compositors grossly on the slightest pretext and even threatens to whip them. Deputy Superintendent Mr. Hall turns a deaf ear to complaints on these heads. The lot of the readers in the Government of India Press is very hard. They were made to work on the *Janmasthmi* day, although as Hindus they should have been allowed holiday on that day in virtue of a circular long since issued by the Government of India. Had the compositors combined and told their tale in a forcible way, their grievances, we are sure, would have been immediately redressed.

57. The *Ekata* [Calcutta] of the 24th August devotes a few paragraphs to the state of affairs in the Government of India Printing office, in which it writes:—

Ekata,
Aug. 24th, 1908.

Mismanagement in the Government of India Printing Press.

The pencil marks on the hour-slips given to the compositors in the Monotype Department are a mystery. We do not

understand the meaning of these marks. Those who examine these slips know nothing of the monotype business. The Superintendent gave orders to the effect that these slips should be examined by experts, but his orders have been honoured more in the breach than in the observance. The next grievance is that the average fine of the section-holders has not as yet been abolished. This is an unjust measure in the extreme. The compositors are not salaried officers; they work by contract: so the section-holders have little hold over them. Still they are made to pay a fine for the compositors' absence. The Government does not entertain salaried men, lest it should have to pay pensions, but it wants to get as much work out of the contract-workers as it expects to get out of salaried men. Besides, the compositors do not stay out of office at the will or direction of the section-holders, but they absent themselves on account of illness, urgent private affairs or some other such unavoidable reason. Under these circumstances it is an unjustifiable act to impose fines on the section-holders.

V.—PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS AND CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

DAILY HITAVADI,
Aug. 22nd, 1908.

58. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 22nd August publishes a letter written by some person from the villages of Banagram, Jagannathpur, etc., near the Singia Railway station in the Jessore district, stating that the

Distress in certain villages in the Jessore district.

inhabitants of these villages are in great distress. To add to their misery, Mr. A. C. Monier, the Manager of the estate of the late Babu Troilokha Nath Biswas, their landlord, charges interest on the rent due by them. The attention of the District Magistrate is drawn to the matter.

NAYAK,
Aug. 22nd, 1908.

59. The *Nayak* [Calcutta] of the 22nd August says, that while on the one hand funds are being raised in the country by

Alleged distress at Basirhat.

respectable people in aid of the famine-stricken inhabitants of Bashirhat, in the 24-Parganas, the Hon'ble Mr. Streetfield has, on the other hand, declared in Council that there is no famine at Bashirhat. Now, whom to believe: those who have seen the people's suffering with their own eyes, or those whose knowledge about the country is acquired at Dalhousie Square?

VI.—MISCELLANECUS.

HITVARTA,
Aug. 20th, 1908

60. Referring to the publication of a manifesto by the Bengal British

The British Indian Association's manifesto to the public.

Indian Association denouncing the bomb-makers, etc., the *Hitvarta* [Calcutta] of the 20th August says, that the bomb-makers have been abused, the students advised to confine their attention to their books, and the ears of the extremist writers pulled; and then exclaims: "what more?" "Why there has been a good show of loyalty" is the paper's answer.

HITVARTA,
Aug. 20th, 1908.

61. Referring to the recent bomb explosion at the Shamnagar Railway Station, the perpetrator of which has been identified with that of the Kankinara bomb outrage by the

Bomb at Shamnagar.

Empire, the *Hitvarta* [Calcutta] of the 20th August notices that its contemporary rejoices at the idea that the bomb-throwers have been gradually losing their courage, inasmuch as they have been unsuccessful this time in effecting any injury to the inmates of the train. The paper would be glad if such were the facts, but the case is unfortunately quite the contrary. The bomb affairs in Calcutta have been stretching like the bowels of Satan day by day. Repressive measures have exceeded all conceivable bounds without any success in suppressing the bomb-throwers. A sensible person must say that the measures adopted by the Government for the purpose of putting down the anarchists have proved a failure. Let these be suppressed by all means, says the paper, but ordinarily Government should adopt conciliatory in place of repressive policy, and grant the people their just rights. This alone would enable the Government to win their sympathy.

62. The *Hitvarta* [Calcutta] of the 20th August has published an article

Indian cloth industry and difficulties besetting it.

on the Indian cloth industry, in which the paper lays down that the only means for the Indians to save themselves from the havoc of the present famine is their firm adherence to the "*swadeshi* and boycott." The Indian cloth merchants have been following up their trade successfully for the last three years, but they now find themselves on the horns of a dilemma, famine harassing them on one side, while Manchester cloth merchants threatening them to destroy their trade by considerably lowering the price of their own stuff on the other. That the price of the *swadeshi* cloth is higher, the paper admits, but at the same time it advises the people not to be led away by the temptation of a lower price to purchase English-made cloth to the ruin of their own industry. The people should make it a point always to purchase the Indian-made article, although they may for the present get it at a higher price or it may not be so fine as the foreign one.

The paper also asks mill-owners of India to reduce the price of their articles, in the hope that the whole field may be theirs after a time.

63. The *Jasohar* [Jessore] of the 20th August notices in a leading article the 7th of August celebration. It holds that the

Bengalees stick to the oath of *swadeshim*.

Bengalees have held fast to their determination, And even at the risk of incurring the displeasure of the authorities, they have proved their sympathy with and faith in the ultimate success of the *swadeshi* movement. The Bengalees have realised that the question of *swadeshim* is a question of life and death with them. Their very existence depends on the success of *swadeshim*, while its extinction means their death, or rather the death of the whole nation. The paper believes that in spite of all repressive measures, *swadeshim* is making headway and getting a firm hold of the people's mind. That is only natural. The tendency to protect one's own interest is the predominating factor in human character, and also one of the preserving elements of his life. The people of India will do all they can to save themselves from the fate which will be theirs if *swadeshim* fails. The Indians have now realised an ideal, and perhaps some day they will regain their lost glory. The paper further says that from the first day of the proclamation of boycott, it has noticed the gradual development of India's national arts and trade, and the downfall of England in the field of trade and commerce. Manchester is doomed to failure, if only the Bengalees stick to their oath. There are difficulties of the most trying character to be encountered, and are to be manfully withstood. The paper concludes by significantly adding that even precious lives are to be sacrificed for sticking to the sacred oath of *swadeshim*.

64. The *Sandhya* [Calcutta] of the 20th August, in noticing how certain Anglo-Indian and English Newspapers have lately

The "Bengali Babu."

been persistently pointing to the educated Bengali Babu as really responsible for the present unrest in India and calling for his repression, recalls how in the early days of British rule in this country, the educated Bengali was held to be indispensable by his English masters. Before the days of the Sepoy Mutiny, Bengalis invariably accompanied English officials when newly-annexed Provinces had to be pacified. From Bihar to the distant North-Western Frontier, Bengali Babus were to be found in every city, organising the administration under English supervision. The East Indian Railway could hardly have been effectually started, but for Bengali assistance. And it is due to the English rules of those days to state that they returned this adherence and devotion to their interests, by a spirit bordering almost on family affection. Lieutenant-Governors of the United Provinces from Drummond to Sir Alfred Lyall, and among recent Civilians, Lord Macdonell, Sir David Barbour, Sir Charles Stevens, Sir Henry Cotton, and Sir Edward Baker were and are well-known for their partiality to educated Bengalis. So were Lord Roberts, Lord Napier and Sir Donald Stewart among soldiers; and Lords Lawrence, Mayo, Northbrook and Ripon among Viceroy's. Hindusthanis in those days used to complain that it was the Bengali who had brought the English to Upper India, and in fact, during the Mutiny, Bengalis were as much objects of the animosity of the mutineers as their English masters.

HITVARTA.
Aug. 20th, 1908.

JASOHAR,
Aug. 20th, 1908.

SANDHYA,
Aug. 20th, 1908.

Indeed in those days, the intimacy between the two races was such, that oftentimes Englishmen confided their own domestic troubles and personal hopes to their Bengali friends. Dwarka Nath Tagore, Prasanna Kumar Tagore, Santiram Singh and Raja Baidyanath Ghosal were friends of the Calcutta Englishmen of those days, in the best sense of the term. Mr. C. E. Buckland never sat on a chair before Babu Joy Krishna Mukerjee, because he had been the friend of his father Mr. C. T. Buckland. Again high officials like Mr. Horace Cockerell and Sir Rivers Thompson are known never to have sat down in the presence of Maharaja Sris Chandra of Nadia, unless asked to do so. Bengali high-caste ladies are known to have temporarily fed English children, whose mothers were ill, at their own breasts, and the wives of English *burra sahibs* are known also to have done the same for the children of their Burra Babus when similarly circumstanced.

If all this is now changed, it is because the present-day Englishman does not know how to mix with us and treat us with respect. The Bengalis are a submissive people by habit, and the English must have behaved with the utmost meanness to have made them intractable. There is also a political reason underlying this fact of the present alienation between the Bengali and the Englishman. Englishmen evidently imagine that the influence of the Bengalis has extended too far for his own future safety.

SANJIVANI,
Aug. 20th, 1908.

65. The *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 20th August is glad to hear that the British Indian Association has no connection with the proposal to give a farewell address to Sir Robert Rampini.

Farewell address to Sir Robert Rampini.

HITAVADI,
Aug. 21st, 1908.

66. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 21st August has the following:—

Behari loyalty.

The Behar Land-holders' Association proved the loyalty of the Behar people by issuing a manifesto. They were not content with deprecating the action of those who have brought disorder and unrest into the country. They went further and expressed their approval of the recently enacted repressive legislative measure and gave assurance of their support to other repressive measures which the exigencies of the occasion may require. The Maharaja of Darbhanga took the most active part in assuring Government of Behar's loyalty and his labours have been appreciated in high quarters. Lord Minto has not only expressed his pleasure at what the Behar Association has done, but has also given it as his opinion that the Behar manifesto will go a great way towards improvements in the situation.

HITAVADI,
Aug. 21st, 1908.

67. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 21st August, in referring to the address which the people of Bihar under the leadership of the Maharaja of Darbhanga presented

Behari loyalty.

to His Honour Sir Andrew Fraser during his recent visit to Bankipore, observes that His Highness has succeeded in his efforts. Speaking of the address itself, the paper says, that it contained a list of wants and grievances of the people of Bihar and a prayer for allowing them to submit a memorial asking for the extension of Sir Andrew Fraser's tenure of office. His Honour held out hopes of looking into the grievances of the people and to do all he could. He appreciated the good will towards him and loyalty of the Bihari people, but he could not comply with their request of sending in any representation for the extension of his tenure of office. His Honour pointed out that as there were some who would like to see him longer at Belvedere, there were others who would like to see him vacate his office. Before expressing himself one way or the other, he said he ought to hear both parties. The paper commends the good sense His Honour has displayed in the matter.

HITAVADI,
Aug. 21st, 1908.

68. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 21st August refers to the proclamation

The proclamation of the Governor of Bombay.

of the Governor of Bombay, published in the *Bombay Gazette* of the 13th August, with regard to the consequence of the Bombay riots and says that a perusal of the proclamation has convinced it that the Governor is under a wrong impression as to the real cause of the unrest. The devotion of the Maharatta labourers to Mr. Tilak was the cause of the riot, and not the instigation of anybody as the Governor says. The Governor blames the native papers for creating racial enmity, but he overlooks the fact that the *Bombay Times*

has been abusing the black natives under his very eyes. We do not think the Governor's impressions are infallible. On account of errors of this nature which Governors are often committing (we do not know whether intentionally or not), they have proved unequal to the task of pacifying the unrest.

69. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 21st August has the following under the heading: "Is unity possible?"—

HITAVADI,
Aug. 21st, 1908.

Boycott the prime cause of ill-feeling between the Anglo-Indians and natives.

Our endeavours to boycott foreign goods have it is said, earned for us the hatred and displeasure of the white men. Those white men who have become our sworn enemies, are saying that unless we are subjected to oppressive rule we shall never give up the boycott. Either in deference to this opinion or for some other cause, the Government have adopted the principle of repression.

Some say that unless we drop the boycott, Englishmen cannot co-operate with us in any good cause. But is it true? So far as we understand, any friendship between us and the white merchants is not possible. They have come to this country for trade and the improvement of trade is their only aim. They do not care if the indigenous arts die. A few years ago, when the weaving mills were first established at Bombay, the white merchants began to show their enmity in a thousand ways. Even the Government were also moved. While the duty on English cloth was remitted, an Exise tax was put on the Indian cloth and hard rules were enforced with regard to the wages of the labourers. The result was that the trade of the white men remained undisturbed and the native mills suffered heavy losses. But the authorities were unmoved. They never uttered a word concerning the loss of the Bombay mills. But then there was no such thing as boycott. Why did the English merchants stand against the Indians and oppose them in their new attempts for the advancement of their arts? Do they ever consider the fact that the indigenous arts have decayed? The *Statesman* will say that the cause of the depression of the indigenous arts might be found in the defeat the native arts sustained in the open competition. This sounds well. But we do not think that the remission of tax on imported cloth, introduction of excess duty on Indian cloth and enforcement of stringent rules with regard to labourers, do in any way go to support the doctrine of "free trade." Whenever the Government wanted to pass any measure with regard to import duty, they did it with their eye to the interest of Lancashire. It has been now conclusively proved that our interest and the interest of the British traders are at variance with each other. So our friendship with them is not possible. Apart from the interest, let us look to the character of the British people. They feel some sort of natural antipathy towards us, and look at us with eyes of hatred. Now the existence of ill-feeling may be ascribed to our *swadeshim*, but everybody knows how unpopular Lord Ripon became with the Anglo-Indians when he attempted to introduce a few reforms. The truth is when the Government pass any measure to curb the liberty of the people, the Anglo-Indians unanimously support them; but whenever there is any proposal for the expansion of our rights, they feel no scruples to oppose it. Had the clubs of the Anglo-Indians sided with us in our opposition to the partition of Bengal, we do not think Lord Curzon would dare bring his scheme to a successful issue. But they had no sympathy with our agitation. Why? There was no boycott then. Are we still to understand that if we give up the boycott, the white merchants will unite and work with us? We fully believe that as long as the interest of the white will be at variance with the interest of the native so long there is no likelihood of meeting on a common platform as friends and of working together. Whatever insinuations are made to the effect that the boycott is the prime cause of all this ill-feeling between the natives and the white men, we are not going to drop the boycott. We are quite sure that the amount of sympathy we shall receive after we have done away with the boycott, will be just as that which we used to receive before it.

70. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 21st August, in referring to the activity of zamindars in the matter of issuing loyal manifestoes and showing loyalty to Government in

HITAVADI,
Aug. 21st, 1908.

The zamindars' loyalty. various other ways, expresses surprise at the sudden change in the character of the zamindars. The paper has nothing to say against the efforts of the

zamindars, but the fact that they have so suddenly been seized with the idea of doing good to the people puzzles it to a degree. These men have hitherto been known to live in luxury, and as for discharging any duty they only know how to sign their names on subscription lists. They never concerned themselves in any public movement which had for its object the welfare of their rayats or of the general public. They were found busy in realising rents from their raiyats. That was all they did. But the paper admits that there were some among the zamindars who were not of the type described above. But there is no denying the fact that the majority of the class were of that type. The paper significantly asks what has given so much incentive to the zamindars for so actively participating in the public movements of the country. Lord Minto is said to have made much of the zamindars in his reform scheme. Has this, the writer asks, made the "natural leaders" of the country so much anxious to justify their position?

HITAVADI,
Aug. 21st, 1908.

71. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 21st August, in referring to the publication of papers in connection with the Frontier question, deprecatingly observes that not only is the

conqueror of the Soudan the present Commander-in-Chief in India, but a veteran soldier fills the office of Viceroy. It is only natural that every man should be anxious to be always in evidence before the world and add to his reputation. Lord Curzon added to his reputation by his Tibet Expedition, and Lord Minto too has since been anxious to add the Frontier territories to the Indian Empire. He could not realise the difficulties of the situation and the future results of his policy. Lord Morley could not agree with the policy of the Viceroy in Council, and he has given his reasons for the disagreement. But for the good sense of Lord Morley, the Viceroy's policy would have been carried out. In a vein of irony the writer asks the Viceroy to wait, observing that his failure in this instance may bring him success in future.

SOLTAN,
Aug. 21st, 1908.

72. The *Soltan* [Calcutta] of the 21st August has the following under the heading: "The present state of India and the duty of Musalmans":—

A declaration of the *Soltan's* policy.
Just as we are not traitors to our country, so we are not also disloyal to the Government. We have also no place amongst false and insincere loyalists. We are for furthering the cause of the country's good, and not even the displeasure of our rulers will deter us from this object. To love and feel for one's motherland and nourish her and wish her prosperity, is a fundamental teaching of Islamism, indeed of every religion, and we are not prepared to forget this teaching for currying favour either with the rulers or with the ruled. There are people who hold that boycott indicates sedition and disloyalty, but we have as yet failed to realise the weight of this opinion. In matters of food, dress, etc., we are perfectly independent. And what sin does one incur by trying to promote the arts and industries of the country and giving up the use of foreign things? In some quarters it is held that *swadeshi* is good, but boycott is very bad and dangerous. We do not know whether to call men holding this opinion mad or foolish. *Swadeshi* is impracticable without boycott, and the English themselves have been teaching us the lesson of boycott for the last two centuries. Englishmen will purchase English-made articles with even three or four times the price for which they can get the same thing made in a foreign country. Without boycott, it is impossible for the Indians to successfully compete with highly scientific people in the field of commerce.

Some people say that boycott indicates disloyalty, and should consequently be given up. As for ourselves, we see no connection between boycott and disloyalty. Not only England, but many other countries in the world, sell their commodities in India. The boycott is intended not to destroy British trade, but to bring *swadeshi* articles into vogue by reducing the volume of the foreign trade. There is, therefore, no reason why the boycott should indicate disloyalty. It is a false boycott which seeks only to undo the partition and oust Manchester cloth and Liverpool salt from the Indian market. No truly patriotic soul has any sympathy with such a perverted boycott. The true boycott may injure the trade of England along with that of every other commercial country, but we cannot help that. The English people have done immense harm to Indian trade. Indeed, such losses are only natural in the

commercial world. And such commercial competition has nothing to do with disloyalty. Those who are boycotters for the prosperity of the country are true patriots, and are not disloyal. On the other hand, those who are advocates of the false boycott, are rather traitors to their country than disloyal to the Government, for they have not the highest good of the country at heart. An opponent of the boycott cannot in reality be truly loyal. A traitor to his country will turn into a traitor to his king for the smallest self-interest.

Now for the talk of revolution. If there is anybody in the country who wants to completely subvert the present sovereign power, he is surely a revolutionist liable to be punished by law. But those who want to change the system of government at present obtaining in India into a representative system of government under British Suzerainty, or who are for giving a weight to public opinion in matters of government, ought never to be called rebels and arrested and punished under one pretext or another. At present there are two parties of political reformers in India, one party desiring to have full and complete independence, and another self-government under British Suzerainty. The latter party is not guilty of any offence, either morally or legally; the former party is legally, though not morally, guilty.

Many people ask whether the ideal of any of these parties will succeed, and how far these ideals are practicable. Those who know the history of dependent nations becoming independent and of independent nations becoming dependent, and who remember the history of revolutions in Italy, France, America, Greece, Spain, etc., may not find it impossible for them to answer this difficult question. We need not, however, venture to express any opinion on the subject.

73. Referring to the report that the British Indian Association of Calcutta contemplates giving a farewell address to Sir Robert Rampini on the eve of his retirement from the High Court Bench, the *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 22nd August writes:—

Sir Robert Rampini has never given evidence of any remarkable genius in him. Never did a political association take upon itself the task of blowing the trumpet when a High Court Judge retired. The British Indian Association now exists only in name.

74. The *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 22nd August quotes the remarks made by the *Indian Daily News* and *Capital* condemning the severe sentence passed upon the unfortunate Durga Charan Sanyal by the High Court, and is glad that both the Anglo-Indian newspapers and the Anglo-Indian community have expressed their sympathy for him. The writer exhorts the countrymen of Durga Charan to make provision for the maintenance of his family.

75. In commenting upon the speeches delivered by Sir John Hewett, the Lieutenant-Governor of the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh, at Lucknow and other places in which His Honour declared the presence of sedition in the United Provinces and his determination to suppress it by all the means available to him if the people failed to give active help to Government in the matter, the *Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 22nd August observes as follows:—

It is clear from His Honour's speeches that Sir John Hewett has no longer the faith that he had once in his people, and that he has now grown suspicious. Although there have been a few cases (of sedition), but the poison appears according to the statement of His Honour more widespread than what the paucity of cases would indicate. If this be really the case, Sir John Hewett's determination to remove it is natural for a ruler.

But however intelligent and experienced he may be, no English official has yet shown himself intelligent enough to discover the cause of this infectious poison. Even a pure-hearted Englishman like Sir John Hewett has caught the infection of other Englishmen. The difficulty is that the self-sufficient Englishmen are not likely to take any measures to counteract the evil effects of their so-called poison (of anarchy) on the advice of an Indian. Indians who have any access to them, are only those who say what may please the Englishmen.

BASUMATI,
Aug. 22nd, 1908.

BASUMATI,
Aug. 22nd, 1908.

BHARAT MITRA,
Aug. 22nd, 1908.

So there is no hope of the rulers even knowing the true cause of the discontent, nor of true remedy being applied to remove it. If the Lieutenant-Governor therefore continues to speak to his present convictions, one may expect searches, arrests, and sedition prosecutions in that Province too.

HINDUSTHAN,
Aug. 22nd, 1908.

76. Referring to the remarks made by the Maharaja of Darbhanga in his presidential speech at the annual meeting of the Bihar Land-holders' Association on the disaffection and unrest now prevailing in the country, the *Hindusthan* [Calcutta] of the 22nd August says:—

We support the views of the Maharaja with all our heart: but we must say that mere lip-sympathy of the high officials will not be able to remove unrest and disaffection from the land. By the influence of English education, and by coming into contact with high English ideals, the people of India are feeling in their hearts the impulse of a new spirit which fills their minds with high aspirations. A wise politician, instead of curbing this spirit, would rather help its growth. Cannot those who are, for the welfare of the Government, thus preaching to the people their duty, give advice to the officials also for the identical purpose?

HINDUSTHAN,
Aug. 22nd, 1908.

77. The *Hindusthan* [Calcutta] of the 22nd August says:—

The yellow journals the originators of the racial ill-feeling.

We fully concur with what Tilak said in his defence in the Bombay Sessions Court regarding "yellow journals." In fact the majority of these journals are creating in this country greater and graver mischief than any of the native vernacular papers holding extreme views. The writers of the yellow journals in their articles and remarks give vent to their feelings of hatred towards the natives of India, and misrepresent their character and thereby endeavour to vitiate the minds of the Europeans with like feelings. Their vituperations and malignant attacks on the leaders of the country rouse even the most cool-headed amongst us, who, to refute the false charges brought against their countrymen, refer to many unpleasant things which make them subject to trials, and in the end to incarceration and even to transportation.

Thus it comes about that the real offenders—the originators of racial ill-feelings—not only get scot-free, but dance with joy at the downfall of their rivals and think themselves the masters of the land. In fact these papers have become a source of great trouble to this accursed land. Will not the Government of Lord Morley and Lord Minto take prompt steps towards their suppression?

HINDUSTHAN,
Aug. 22nd, 1908.

78. Referring to the resolution of the Bengal Land-holders' Association

Presentation of a farewell address to Sir Robert Rampini, Chief Justice, by the Bengal Land-holders' Association.

to present a farewell address to Sir Robert Rampini, the Officiating Chief Justice of the High Court, the *Hindusthan* [Calcutta] of the 22nd August strongly protests against this proceeding of the Association, as hitherto it has never presented such address to any Judge of the High Court at the time of his retirement, not even when Sir Romesh Chandra Mitra, Sir Chandra Madhab, Sir Guru Dass, the ornaments of the Bench and jewels of the country, retired.

NAYAK,
Aug. 22nd, 1908.

79. The *Nayak* [Calcutta] of the 22nd August writes as follows:—

The value of loyalty manifestoes.

Manifestoes protesting loyalty to the British Crown are at present pouring in from zemindars, big and small, and societies and associations in all parts of the country. But coming suddenly as they do, after the recent bomb troubles, they are surely taken by the Government for what they are worth and consigned to the waste-paper basket. The foolish trumpeters of loyalty are, however, elated beyond measure at the words of thanks the Government is pleased to send them. Let us see what value these manifestoes possess for the people of the country.

The zemindars pride themselves upon being the natural leaders of the country, their sycophants call them so, and even the Government sometimes gets its purpose served by designating them as such. Indeed, had the zemindars been really leaders of the people of the country, manifestoes issued by them would have had the desired object. But as a matter of fact the zemindars in this country are now-a-days no better than oppressive farmers of revenue realising from the poor raiyat ten times the rent due from him.

And the raiyat's life-blood, which is thus extracted by the zemindar, is seldom applied to works calculated to do him good, but is all spent in procuring luxuries for the latter and ministering to his vices. There is therefore no love lost between the zemindar and the raiyat, the latter always wishing the destruction of the former. Those who now-a-days speak of the Indian landlord as one who feels for his tenants in their sorrows and sufferings and has an eye to their well-being, are either utterly ignorant of the true conditions or mean sycophants. In fact, if the raiyat has formed any political opinion, he is sure to continue to hold it, in spite of his landlord's loyalty manifesto. Of course, if the zemindar means to force anything on the raiyat, he could do that. For that purpose, however, the police is perhaps sufficient. It may, therefore, be concluded that the loyalty manifesto of the zemindar has no connection with or effect upon the raiyat.

Again, does the raiyat understand what is contained in manifestoes written in high-flown English? Has any one heard of these manifestoes being translated into the vernacular and distributed broadcast among villagers, or of any attempt on the part of the zemindars to enlighten them on the subject?

As for middle class men, who are more or less educated, a loyalty manifesto issued by a zemindar can have no influence on them either for good or for bad. Such a manifesto, purposeless as it is, so far as the lower classes, the middle classes and the ruling classes are concerned, serves only to add to the income of the Telegraph Office and the Printing Press, and relieve newspaper editors of the trouble of finding matter for the columns of their papers.

NAYAK,
Aug. 22nd, 1908. 1

80. Referring to Sir Andrew Fraser's recent speech delivered on the occasion of laying the foundation of the Sabour Agricultural College building, the *Nayak* [Calcutta] of the 22nd August says, that His Honour hit the right nail on the head when he said that there are at present in the country "elements of unrest connected with economic causes." Ten or twenty years hence people will be in a position to say correctly whether the Pusa and Sabour Agricultural Colleges were calculated to do good or harm to the country. To our mind, however, continues the writer, the attempt to improve agriculture in the country by establishing these colleges appears like an attempt to get water by digging a well after a house has been set fire to. Ours is an immediate need of cheap bread, a sound constitution and healthy villages. But Government is telling us, "Go on dying of famine and pestilence till the agricultural colleges have flourished and the Health Department have submitted reports, when you are sure to revive."

81. Referring to the letter written to the *Times* by Sir Ernest Cable, formerly a merchant in Calcutta, with regard to the hidden treasures of India and their utilisation in trade, the *Sandhya* [Calcutta] of the 22nd August says, that though impoverished, India has still riches left to her. But they will never be brought out and utilised in feeding the British trade by opening railways and importing foreign machineries. We are certain that we are not benefited by the trade carried on by the *Feringhees*, and it is no exaggeration to say that even the spread of railways has served to augment our miseries. Why should the Indians, to inflict sorrows on themselves, bring out their money and make them over to the *Feringhees*? The British people during their reign of a hundred and fifty years have not been able to earn our love. The reason is that they do not believe us. So whatever show of loyalty the people may assume, they can never trust Englishmen with their money. We don't think that the Government will be so foolish as to interfere with the private property of the people. That would be a disastrous policy. We are quite sure that no amount of coercion and threatening will induce the people to part with their hidden purse. So it would be prudent if you Englishmen bring money from England, the richest country in the world, and facilitate your trade here.

SANDHYA,
Aug. 22nd, 1908. 1

In connection with the letter of Sir Cable, the *Statesman* has made some slandering insinuations which have greatly offended us. We cannot answer the paper, except by a horse-whip.

SANDHYA,
Aug. 22nd, 1908.

82. Referring to Bepin Babu's going away from India, the *Sandhya* [Calcutta] of the 22nd August says that before the ship started, Bepin Babu was interviewed on board the *Golconda* by a European Police-officer. It is rumoured that the officer asked Bepin Babu not to go down on land at any of the Indian ports and speak to the people. He was also told that if he disobeyed this order, he would be arrested. We have also heard that a detective is following Bepin Babu up to Aden. In fact he will be taken up to that port as a prisoner. The apprehension of the police is that Bepin Babu, when in America, will stay at Vancouver. This place is suspected to be a hot-bed of sedition and to have a bomb factory. It is strongly rumoured in Calcutta that as soon as Bepin Babu will set his foot in that British possession (Vancouver), he will be arrested.

We hope the Government will contradict these rumours.

SONAR BHARAT,
Aug. 22nd, 1908.

83. The *Sonar Bharat* [Howrah] of the 22nd August, in noticing the meeting recently held at the British Indian Association with a view to giving Sir Robert Rampini, the Officiating Chief Justice of Bengal, a farewell address as well as to devise means to commemorate his memory in a fitting manner, says very hard things about those who organised the meeting. The paper is equally hard upon others in the country who issued the loyal manifestoes and expressed their approval of the repressive acts recently done by the Government. The paper characterises these men as vile slanderers, cowards and abject flatterers. The Officiating Chief Justice, the paper adds, did nothing in the way of doing good to the people. He has no claim on the good-will and gratitude of the people. In cases where Indians were concerned, he murdered justice. It was for the High Court Bar to decide whether their Officiating Chief Justice was to be given a farewell address and honoured in other ways. Even if it be accepted that Sir Robert Rampini is an impartial Judge of sterling merit, the paper thinks that it has still a right to ask the propitiators of the retiring Officiating Chief Justice why they did not honour Judges like the late Sir Romesh Chandra Mitra, Sir Chundra Madhab Ghosh and Sir Guru Das Banerjee on their retirement.

EKATA,
Aug. 24th, 1908.

84. The following is the second instalment of the speech delivered by the President of the Printers' Union at a meeting of the Union held at Bara Bazar (Calcutta) published in the *Ekata* [Calcutta] of the 24th August:—

Printers' Union's meeting at Barabazar (Calcutta).
Let me give another instance to illustrate the English character. Every student of history knows that Viceroy's of a more subtle, diplomatic nature than Lord Clive, Warren Hastings and Dalhousie have never come to this country. The ruin which the oppression and repression of these Viceroy's have brought in their train is without limit. We need not cite those facts here. On the other hand no Viceroy of so liberal a mind as Lord Ripon has ever come or is likely to come to India. Not the Indians only, but the whole world, has sung his praise for the upright way in which he ruled the Indian Empire. But what is the judgment of the ordinary Englishman in this respect? They always worship Clive, Hastings and Dalhousie and offer the incense of thanks to their departed souls. On the other hand the name of Lord Ripon scarcely passes their lips. What have they not done or been doing to perpetuate the memory of the former Viceroy's? But there is a not single statue in memory of Lord Ripon. There are statues of many Englishmen, great and small, distinguished and mediocre; only that of Lord Ripon is wanting. Does not this difference in their regard point out the object of the English? And just consider for yourself what profit there is in petitioning men whose objects are such, and whose feelings run in such a direction.

Our Babus have been holding Congress meetings for the last 22 years. I would also ask you to consider the object and methods of work of the Congress. The object of the Congress is the removal of the grievances of the country. How far has the Congress succeeded in this attempt? They assemble once in a year, and hot discussions of high-handed proceedings of the rulers resound on the platform. In concluding a speech, one says "I propose such an unjust law be repealed;" another seconds the motion.

The proceedings are then forwarded to the Lieutenant-Governor, the Viceroy, the Secretary of State for India and Members of Parliament. The Congress thinks that this will end all misery. But the British Raj never turns its eyes to these. The memorials are consigned to waste-paper baskets by those to whom they are sent. Sir Henry Cotton once went as President of the Congress to lay its resolutions before Lord Curzon. Lord Curzon, not to speak of accepting them, did not even look at them. This is the work of 22 years, this is the outcome of their endeavour and energy, this is the result of petitioning!

I should mention here the native newspapers. For a long time past a great many monthly, fortnightly and weekly papers have been published in the country. What doleful cries they have raised these many years against the high-handedness and oppression of the rulers! Has that proved of any effect? Has that Government turned its eyes to that? Have cases between Indians and Europeans been fairly judged? Rather there is a retrogression in these matters day after day. Formerly Englishmen scarcely hurt the people of the country. Now an Englishman does not get his full sentence, even if he murders a native. Rupture of the spleen through English agency is on the increase rather than on the decrease.

The substance of what I have already said is that the English character lacks in philanthropy. Englishmen are unwilling and incapable of treading the path of justice merely for the sake of philanthropy and love of justice. Englishmen know that if they were to walk in the right path, the whole of England would die of starvation. Englishmen are now doing what the impious goaded by self-interest and hunger do, and that is quite natural for them. This idea has now permeated the whole frame of Englishmen, and that is why they have made national idols of men like Clive, Warren Hastings and Dalhousie, instead of Lord Ripon.

The instances of the Congress and native papers show clearly that neither petitioning nor doleful crying is capable of melting the hearts of Englishmen. Has petitioning then no value, no necessity? Petitioning has both value and necessity, provided it is backed by force. Illustration of this is afforded by the *swadeshi* agitation and *swadeshi* newspapers. Before this the Government did not condescend to use the native journals even as toilet papers—but now they purchase these papers with hard cash, get every line of them translated, read every article with special attention, and become anxious when there is the slightest ruffle. What is the reason of this? Why are they showing so much regard for the native press, after expressing contempt for them for so long a time past? The cause is simply this: The newspapers of old had nothing behind them whereas they feel the existence of a vast force behind the modern journals. They see that the public is guided and moved to action by these papers. The people of the country work according to the preaching of these papers, if not wholly at least partially. That work and that energy have led to a perception by the people of their rights, and they are striving to get those rights. The pocket of the Englishman has been touched, and therefore he feels the necessity of restraining the whip of high-handedness and repression, and looks on the native journals with eyes other than contemptuous. They have not turned their ear to the twenty-year-long cry of the Congress, but the frown of the three-year-old baby of *swadeshi* agitation has made them tremble. The sleep of Englishmen, which could not be broken by the proceedings of the Congress, has now passed away, and they are now anxious to learn every word and every movement of the *swadeshi* agitation. The cause is simply this. The Congress is powerless like the old journals, and the modern journals are powerful like the new-born *swadeshi* agitation. Both criticise the work of the Government. But the difference is that the former is powerful and the latter powerless.

You should therefore understand that the sleep of Englishmen will never be broken, rights will never be secured by only crying, by taking refuge in religion like a beaten coward, and by logic and arguments. We have already said that petitioning may get us the desired object, provided there is a force behind it. As an instance of this, I may refer to your early, middle and present stages. I hope you have not forgotten in this short time the humiliation you were put to and the wrongs you suffered. You did plenty of petitioning then; but did the authorities pay heed to you? But as soon as you were inspired by

the divine inspiration of strike, and pricked the body of the English with the needle of strike, the English looked towards you; they wanted to know your complaints and grievances and gave you every relief unasked for. Did you not get relief unasked for? Yes. Just remember the case of the Bengal Secretariat Press. There nobody could enter the office even with a cigarette in his hand. Did they not smoke in the office even in the presence of the Europeans after the strike? After the strike whenever the authorities heard of meetings and conferences, did they not call you and ask, "Why meetings and all that? What are your grievances? State the same and they will be removed." Did you not get redress with very little petitioning then? The reason of this is simply that you displayed your energy then. Behind your petitions and applications the authorities felt the presence of a power.

Why have you come to your present miserable condition? When you investigate the cause of your present situation, you will feel the truth of my remark. The pride and the energy which actuated you to organise the strike are non-existent now. The drunkard when the influence of liquor is on him plays many pranks and ignorant persons are frightened. The ignorant think that the strength of the man is great and avoids him. But when the influence of the drink passes off and the drunkard lies parallel to the roof, then the feeling of the same ignorant person is one of disgust and contempt. I ask you friends whether your case is not similar to this. When you first organised the strike, the authorities thought that you were the possessors of a great and real power and they hastened to consider your grievances with due regard. Now they find that what was at the bottom of the strike was not a real power but the intoxication caused by a temporary excitement. Now there are division, envy and self-interest among you; now you protect your personal interest at the cost of others; now you like to be silent spectators of the misery of others; you smile at others' woes. The effects of the former intoxication gone, you are now rolling on the earth. It is therefore natural for the authorities to banish their former estimate of you and insult you. The authorities are now extracting one thorn by another, removing one person or party by another person or party. This is your present situation. Now consider whether there is any chance of getting anything by your doleful cries out of Englishmen of the character already portrayed.

HINDI BANGAVASI,
Aug. 24th, 1908.

85. The *Hindi Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 24th August, while regretting to see the people of this country still using foreign

Swadeshism.

than the country produce, hopes that the day is near when people would be better advised. It then exhorts the Indians to proceed on their onward march to *swadeshism*, and to resuscitate many other dying Indian industries.

HITAVADI,
Aug. 26th, 1908.

86. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 26th August makes Sir Bampfylde's article in the *Nineteenth Century* on Indian aspirations and Indian students the text of

Sir Bampfylde's opinion.

a leading article. With a preface in which both Lord Curzon and Sir Bampfylde Fuller come in for their share of strong condemnation, the paper puts in translations of detached portions of the *Nineteenth Century* article wherein the writer has not spared either the Indian students or those who look for a better state of things in the administration of the Empire, or more properly speaking, desire to have self-government on the Colonial system. The paper says that a perusal of the article in the *Nineteenth Century* will give one a clear idea of the opinions of the writer on Indian questions and it also disputes the writer's contention that the present unrest in the country has been brought about by students and young men. This idea is a fallacious one, and the fact is that so long as the idea of a better Government of the country was confined among educated and elderly people, the Government was altogether ignorant of the Indian public feeling in regard to this question. It was when the idea of a better Government spread among the younger generation that the officials became aware of the temper of the country. The paper, however, reluctantly gives credit to Sir Bampfylde Fuller for having admitted that the Indians have real grievances and these require to be redressed. Referring to that portion of Sir Bampfylde's article in which he strongly condemns the Indian students and characterises them as pests of the society, as devoid of

principles and a sense of self respect and altogether incapable of showing the respect due to the fair sex, the paper observes, that in a country where even a child of five years learns by heart the saying of *Chanakaya*—"Another's wife is as good as my own mother," where every child addresses ladies of families other than his own as "mother," "sister," "aunt", etc., the opinion of the writer in question on the morals of Indian students can never be believed and needs no refutation. It is a pity that a man of this type is regarded in England as the emporium of all knowledge and his contributions find place in the pages of a periodical like the *Nineteenth Century*. The paper in conclusion asks if the authorities will enquire into the cause which is fast widening the gulf between the Europeans and Indians.

87. Two societies of Pandits, one of Eastern Bengal and the other of Bengal, writes the *Sandhya* [Calcutta] of the 20th August, have received the two Lieutenant-Governors of the two Provinces with great respect and loyalty. This should not lead the authorities to think that the Bengalis are reconciled to the partition of Bengal. The Pandits who have flattered the Lieutenant-Governors and done obeisance to them are like Kubja, who sold her person to Sri Krishna but never succeeded in becoming his legitimate wife. They do not represent the type of true Bengalis, but are the creation of Lord Dufferin and the title of Mahamahopadhyaya inaugurated by him. It is a regret that the English do not yet know the true Bengali, for it would have been better for them to have done so,

SANDHYA,
Aug. 20th, 1908.

88. The *Sandhya* [Calcutta] of the 26th August says that some of the Parsee leaders of Bombay are trying to get signatures to a loyalty manifesto of their own. The Parsee community is, however, rumoured not to be unanimous on the point. The farce is being well played. Now it remains for the Kols, the Bhils, the Sonthals, the Khonds, the Bhutias and the Lepches alone to issue loyalty manifestoes.

SANDHYA,
Aug. 26th, 1908.

URIYA PAPERS.

89. Referring to the order of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, directing the Police-officers to be careful and discriminating in the work of searching houses in connection with the bomb outrage in Bengal, the *Sambalpur Hitaishini* [Bamra] of the 18th July hopes that the Bengal Police will scrupulously comply with this order, and thereby save innocent persons from unnecessary trouble.

SAMBALPUR
HITAISHINI,
July 18th, 1908.

90. The *Sambalpur Hitaishini* [Bamra] of the 18th July states that the vendors of food-grains in Angul use measures smaller than the standard ones. They were once warned by the Deputy Commissioner of Angul, and they used right measures for some time. They are taking to their old practice again. The attention of the Deputy Commissioner of Angul is again drawn to the matter.

SAMBALPUR
HITAISHINI,
July 18th, 1908.

91. The *Sambalpur Hitaishini* [Bamra] of the 18th July learns from its contemporary of the *Ganjam Gunadarpana* that about 300 persons are daily attending the *Annachhatra* started by the Raja of Barakhemundi in that State.

SAMBALPUR
HITAISHINI,
July 18th, 1908.

92. The *Sambalpur Hitaishini* [Bamra] of the 18th July states that cholera has entirely disappeared from the Bamra State.

SAMBALPUR
HITAISHINI,
July 18th, 1908.

93. The *Sambalpur Hitaishini* [Bamra] of the 18th July states that a heavy rainfall has thrown impediments in the way of sowing paddy and other crops in the Bamra State. The same is the case in Angul.

SAMBALPUR
HITAISHINI,
July 18th, 1908.

SAMBALPUR
HITAISHINI,
July 18th, 1908.

94. The *Sambalpur Hitaishini* [Bamra] of the 18th July publishes a letter from its Sonepur correspondent in which it is stated that the bestowal of the title of Maharaja on the Raja of that State was announced to the people of that State by the observance of a certain number of grand ceremonies, in which both officials and non-officials belonging to that State took active part. The proceedings were marked with a feeling of gratitude, evoked by the gracious act of the benign Government, which failed not to recognize merit in the Chief of Sonepur.

URIYA AND
NAVASAMBAD,
July 22nd, 1908.

95. The *Uriya and Navasambad* [Balasore] of the 22nd July is glad to learn that the Government of India has authorised Provincial Governments to sanction the grant of advances, subject to certain limits, to Government servants for the purchase of houses in places where house-rent is exceptionally high.

URIYA AND
NAVASAMBAD,
July 22nd, 1908.

96. The *Uriya and Navasambad* [Balasore] of the 22nd July states that good rain is falling in the Balasore district.

SAMVAD VAHIKA,
July 23rd, 1908.

97. The *Samvad Vahika* [Balasore] of the 23rd July learns from its contemporary of the *Ganjam Gunadarpana* that the distress in Angul is so severe that many people in that district live upon a sort of cake made of *khud* (broken rice), seeds of the *saptaphena* plant and edible parts of the mango stone, and observes that such is the case in many parts of Orissa.

SAMVAD VAHIKA,
July 23rd, 1908.

98. The *Samvad Vahika* [Balasore] of the 23rd July is glad to learn that Babu Lakshmi Narayan Patnaik, the Additional Munsif of Balasore, is taking steps to place the New Dispensation Homoeopathic Charitable Dispensary in Balasore.

SAMVAD VAHIKA,
July 23rd, 1908.

99. The *Samvad Vahika* [Balasore] of the 23rd July complains of the proposed abolition of the protective duty on the Russian sugar, imported into India as a return for the proposed abolition of the special duty imposed on the Indian tea imported into Russia by that country. This will benefit the Anglo-Indian tea-planters at the expense of the Indian sugar manufacturers. Thus the interest of sugar is going to be sacrificed to that of the tea, or in other words the interest of the Indian cultivator is going to be sacrificed to that of the Anglo-Indian planter. This is not fair.

SAMVAD VAHIKA,
July 23rd, 1908.

100. The *Samvad Vahika* [Balasore] of the 23rd July notices with regret a large number of railway accidents that have occurred of late in India, and observes that something must be wrong in the constitution or working plan of the Railway Administration. It is hinted that the Railway officials are not well paid, and that their number is not sufficient. Business is carried on by a system of overtime work, which not only injures the health of the railway servants, but incapacitates them for higher or more responsible work. These evils should be remedied without delay. A recourse to criminal prosecution is not the only remedy. The travelling Indians are generally ignorant; otherwise, they might have aroused sufficient interest in the minds of the Railway authorities by instituting a goodly number of damage suits. As regard the educated Indians, they are generally indifferent. The writer insists that it is high time to draw the attention of the authorities to the management of the Railway Administration.

SAMVAD VAHIKA,
July 23rd, 1908.

101. The *Samvad Vahika* [Balasore] of the 23rd July gives a short history of the Indian trade as it was injuriously affected by the predominating interest of the English trade, and observes that but for the *swadeshi* spirit in the country, the Indians would have never thought of competing successfully with their foreign rivals in industry and trade; still the Indians are weak in all respects, and in order to make progress, they must all unite.

102. The *Nilachal Samachar* [Puri] of the 24th July states that the Superintendent of the Hindole State has made good arrangements for lending paddy to the tenants on a small interest, and for selling paddy at a cheaper rate to the Amla of the State.

NILACHAL SAMACHAR,
July 24th, 1908.

Relief arrangements in Hindole.
Hunger inducing many to sell off their children in Puri.

103. The *Nilachal Samachar* [Puri] of the 24th July states that many low caste people are selling off their own children under the pressure of

NILACHAL SAMACHAR,
July 24th, 1908.

hunger.

104. The *Nilachal Samachar* [Puri] of the 24th July states that a few cows belonging to village Harikrishnapur were crushed to death by a moving train proceeding from Puri to Calcutta on the 21st July.

NILACHAL SAMACHAR,
July 24th, 1908.

A railway accident.

105. The *Nilachal Samachar* [Puri] of the 24th July states that a poor woman while passing at night by a Muhammadan grave-yard at Ghoraduar, adjacent to Charinala near the Puri town, was suddenly struck by some unknown and unseen agent and breathed her last shortly afterwards. She had her son with her when the accident took place.

NILACHAL SAMACHAR,
July 24th, 1908.

A death due to the action of a mysterious agent.

The weather and agricultural prospects in Hindole.

106. The *Nilachal Samachar* [Puri] of the 24th July states that there was a good rainfall in Hindole and that the state of the crops is not bad.

NILACHAL SAMACHAR,
July 24th, 1908.

107. The *Nilachal Samachar* [Puri] of the 24th July states that good arrangements have been made for the relief of the distressed people in the Narsingpur State, and that the state of the crops there is hopeful.

NILACHAL SAMACHAR,
July 24th, 1908.

Relief arrangements in Narsingpur.

108. The *Nilachal Samachar* [Puri] of the 24th July has every sympathy for the signallers belonging to the Telegraph Department, who are a set of hard-working officers and who deserve better salaries. The writer hopes that the reforms going to be introduced into that Department will result in bettering the prospects of these poorly-paid officers.

NILACHAL SAMACHAR,
July 24th, 1908.

The prospects of signallers belonging to the Telegraph Department.

109. The *Nilachal Samachar* [Puri] of the 24th July gives an account of the proceedings of a meeting of the Calcutta Utkaliya Samaj, held at Watgunj in Kiderpore, in which it was resolved to collect donations for the benefit of the famished people in Orissa. About Rs. 104 were subscribed on the spot.

NILACHAL SAMACHAR,
July 24th, 1908.

A meeting of the Utkaliya Samaj in Calcutta.

110. The *Garjatbasini* [Talcher] of the 25th July states that Babu Shyam Sundar Nanda, the Superintendent of the Hindole State, is making prompt arrangements for the relief of the famine-stricken people in that State, and is thereby earning their gratitude.

GARJATBASINI,
July 25th, 1908.

Relief arrangements in Hindole.

111. The *Garjatbasini* [Talcher] of the 25th July states that the people in the Daspalla State are better off, as some crops belonging to the rainy season are being harvested.

GARJATBASINI,
July 25th, 1908.

Better prospects in Daspalla.

112. The *Garjatbasini* [Talcher] of the 25th July states that suitable arrangements have been made by the Raja of Athgarh to relieve the distressed people in that State.

GARJATBASINI,
July 25th, 1908.

Relief arrangements in Athgarh.

113. The *Garjatbasini* [Talcher] of the 25th July states that rice sells at 6 seers, *biri* at 6 seers, *kulthi* at 12 seers, *arhar* at 5½ seers, sesamum oil at 1½ seers, mustard oil at 1¼ seers, and *ghee* at 11 chataks per rupee in Talcher.

GARJATBASINI,
July 25th, 1908.

High prices of food-stuffs in Talcher.

114. The *Garjatbasini* [Talcher] of the 25th July states that rice sells at 8 seers, *mung* at 5 seers and *ghee* at 1 seer per rupee in Barpalli. Other articles of food are also very dear.

GARJATBASINI,
July 25th, 1908.

High prices of food-stuffs in Barpalli.

115. The *Garjatbasini* [Talcher] of the 25th July states that a large buffalo was killed by a tiger last week in Dhenkanal.

GARJATBASINI,
July 25th, 1908.

A ferocious tiger in Dhenkanal.

GARJATBASINI,
July 25th, 1908.

116. The *Garjatbasini* [Talcher] of the 25th July states that a foreign merchant, who was carrying on his business in village Remunda, in Barpalli, was murdered while sleeping in his own lodging by some unknown hand. The police investigation is proceeding.

GARJATBASINI,
July 25th, 1908.

117. The *Garjatbasini* [Talcher] of the 25th July states that cholera prevails in a terrible form in the interior of the Athgarh State.

GARJATBASINI
July 25th, 1908.

Cholera in Sambalpur.

town.

GARJATBASINI,
July 25th, 1908.

The weather in Talcher.

GARJATBASINI,
July 25th, 1908.

119. The *Garjatbasini* [Talcher] of the 25th July states that it is raining every day in Talcher. 120. The *Garjatbasini* [Talcher] of the 25th July states that heavy rain fell in the Baramba State and that the rice crop is said to have been a little injured thereby.

GARJATBASINI,
July 25th, 1908.

121. The *Garjatbasini* [Talcher] of the 25th July states that paddy plants have been washed away by flood-water in the Athgarh State and that the agricultural outlook is gloomy.

GARJATBASINI,
July 25th, 1908.

122. The Barapali correspondent of the *Garjatbasini* [Talcher] of the 25th July states that the meteorological conditions have been so long favourable to agriculture in the Barapali State and that the prospects of the crops are promising.

GARJATBASINI,
July 25th, 1908.

123. The *Garjatbasini* [Talcher] of the 25th July states that the *Rath-Jatra* festival passed off successfully in that State this year. The cars were built according to a new plan and were beautifully decorated.

UTKAL VARTA,
July 25th, 1908.

High price of paddy and rice in Orissa.

UTKAL VART,
July 25th, 1908.

124. The *Utkal Varta* [Calcutta] of the 25th July states that paddy sells at 12 seers and rice at 6 seers per rupee in Orissa. 125. The *Utkal Varta* [Calcutta] of the 25th July states that good arrangements have been made for the relief of the distressed people in the Narsingpur State in Orissa.

UTKAL VARTA,
July 25th, 1908.

An *Annachhatra* in Barakhemundi in Ganjam.

UTKAL VARTA,
July 25th, 1908.

126. The *Utkal Varta* [Calcutta] of the 25th July states that 2,096 persons were fed at the Degaguri *Annachhatra* in the Barakhemundi State. 127. The *Utkal Varta* [Calcutta] of the 25th July states that 150 persons are being fed daily at the *Annachhatra* started by the Raja of Dharakote in his State.

UTKAL VARTA,
July 25th, 1908.

128. The *Utkal Varta* [Calcutta] of the 25th July states that a mad girl in village Siripur near the Jajpur town was drowned in a tank near her house.

UTKAL VARTA,
July 25th, 1908.

129. The *Utkal Varta* [Calcutta] of the 25th July states that in the Cuttack district the weeding of *beali* paddy and jute, and the transplantation of *sarad* paddy and *mandia* are going on; in Sambalpur the sowing of paddy has been over; in Padmapur rain is urgently wanted and cotton plants are being injured by caterpillars.

UTKAL VARTA,
July 25th, 1908.

130. The *Utkal Varta* [Calcutta] of the 25th July states that insects are injuring the *beali* paddy in some parts of Orissa.

UTKAL VARTA,
July 25th, 1908.

131. The Jajpur correspondent of the *Utkal Varta* [Calcutta] of the 25th July states that agricultural operations are going on in full force in that subdivision of the Cuttack district.

KAL VARTA,
July 25th, 1908.

132. The *Utkal Varta* [Calcutta] of the 25th July regrets to note that the Government of India is not supporting the cause of those Indians in the Transvaal who are being persecuted by the Government of that country.

simply because they are Indians. The Government of India should have more sympathy for the persecuted Indians in the Transvaal.

133. The Ghanteswar correspondent of the *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 25th July states that the relief works having been closed owing to the inconveniences due to the rainy weather, the day-labourers have been thrown out of employment and are therefore suffering much.

UTKALDIPIKA,
July 25th, 1908.

134. The same correspondent of the *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 25th July states that cows and bullocks are being brought to the local markets in large numbers for sale and are being disposed of at very low prices.

UTKALDIPIKA,
July 25th, 1908.

135. The Jajpur correspondent of the *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 25th July states that the Rangoon paddy has been a great help to the people of Orissa this year. It is superior to the local paddy, in that it contains no chaff while the local paddy contains chaff in the proportion of 2 chittacks a seer.

UTKALDIPIKA,
July 25th, 1908.

136. The Ghanteswar correspondent of the *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 25th July states that one day an unknown man of 30 was found dead in a house in the local market whither he had gone to sleep the night before.

UTKALDIPIKA,
July 25th, 1908.

137. The Jajpur correspondent of the *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 25th July states that locusts are destroying the young paddy plants in that subdivision of the Cuttack district.

UTKALDIPIKA,
July 25th, 1908.

138. The *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 25th July states that seven persons died of cholera in Cuttack in the last week.

UTKALDIPIKA,
July 25th, 1908.

139. The *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 25th July states that it was raining every day in the Cuttack town in the last week. It is said that the weather has so long been favourable to the crops and it is hoped that it will continue so.

UTKALDIPIKA,
July 25th, 1908.

140. The Ghanteswar correspondent of the *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 25th July states that the agriculturists are busy in their work owing to the favourable weather.

UTKALDIPIKA,
July 25th, 1908.

141. The Kendrapara correspondent of the *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 25th July states that three or four showers of good rain have helped the agriculturists in their transplantation work.

UTKALDIPIKA,
July 25th, 1908.

142. The Jajpur correspondent of the *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 25th July states that good rain fell in Jajpur last week.

UTKALDIPIKA,
June 25th, 1908.

143. Referring to the statement of one of its correspondents that the people of Tania-talnal, on the north side of the Coast canal in the Balasore district, effected a breach about 2 yards deep and 4 yards wide in the northern embankment of the Coast canal, with a view to protect themselves against the ravages being committed by the rising flood-water of the Subarnarekha, the *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 25th July observes that the authorities, while trying to punish those who effected a breach in a public embankment, should take steps to protect those who, situated as they are, have continual fear from the flood-waters of the Subarnarekha.

UTKALDIPIKA,
July 25th, 1908.

144. Referring to the amendment of the Local Self-Government Act, the *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 25th July points out that the proposal to impose a Sanitation-tax on the landed interest is highly objectionable, as that interest is paying the Road Cess, Public Works Cess and the Chaukidari-tax, in addition to the regular land revenue. To preserve the peace of the country, is the duty of the State. Hence the chaukidars should be paid by the State, and the Chaukidari-tax abolished. With the abolition of the Chaukidari-tax, Government may take help from the people, including the landed and other

UTKALDIPIKA,
July 25th, 1908.

interests, in the shape of subscriptions or donations, with a view to provide for the sanitary administration of the country, the administration of the fund remaining in the hands of the people.

UTKALDIPIKA,
July 25th, 1908.

145. The *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 25th July thanks His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal for giving expression to kind and liberal sentiments in the course of His Honour's speech in the Bengal Legislative Council, in which a hint was given that the liberal policy of Government in introducing salutary reforms into the practical administration of the country will continue its work, in spite of the discouraging acts of violence that have occurred in different parts of the Province.

His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal thanked.

UTKALDIPIKA,
July 25th, 1908.

146. The *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 25th July states that the Ramkrishna Mission Society is doing excellent service at Fatepur and Titripa, in the Puri district, by distributing a large quantity of rice among the poor and famished people in that part of the Puri district. Mr. Hamilton, the Collector of Puri, has encouraged the Society by paying Rs. 500, with a promise to pay more in the future. It is said that Mr. Hamilton personally attended to a cholera patient, who unfortunately succumbed to the disease, and whose last funeral rites were performed by Mr. Hamilton himself.

The Ramkrishna Mission Society and Mr. Hamilton, the Collector of Puri.

UTKALDIPIKA,
July 25th, 1908.

147. The *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 25th July is sorry to note that not only the editors of Bengal and Bombay papers are being punished for their seditious writings, but the editors of Madras papers and the speakers of that Province are also being punished for the commission of the same offence. The writer is astonished that heavy punishments have not deterred these sedition-mongers from proceeding on an objectionable path, and hopes that editors and orators should be more careful and prudent in the future.

A piece of advice to editors and orators bent on seditious errands.

RAJENDRA CHANDRA SASTRI,

Bengali Translator.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,
The 29th August, 1908.

REPORT (PART II)
ON
NATIVE-OWNED ENGLISH NEWSPAPERS IN BENGAL
FOR THE
Week ending Saturday, 29th August 1908.

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II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

(a)—Police.

1053. The *Mussalman* declares that the frequency of murders in the 24-Parganas and the number of undetected cases, show that the police in the district has become hopelessly corrupt or inefficient. Dacoities, too, have been frequent, and the life and property of the people are consequently unsafe. "What is the necessity of maintaining the police when they are totally useless? It is very well indeed that men and women are murdered, properties looted, and these *guardians of peace* either maintain supreme indifference or show utter inefficiency. Will His Honour Sir Andrew Fraser, an ally of the police, give a jerking to his friends at least to impart to them temporary activity? The primary duty of the executive, specially of the police, is to prevent crime; if they are so worthless as not to be able to do that, it is expected that they should at least detect it. If they are incapable even of this, let the Police Department be altogether abolished and the people be thus relieved of a portion of the heavy taxation under the burden of which they are groaning. The money of the half-fed people can be better utilised than in the maintenance of a corrupt and inefficient police."

MUSSALMAN,
21st July 1905.

(b)—Working of the Courts.

1054. The *Bengalee* doubts the legality of the Chief Presidency Magistrate's order regarding the public meeting that was announced to be held in the Jorabagan Square on the 19th instant. The matter will have to be settled by lawyers. The journal is of opinion that the police need not be at all in evidence at these meetings. If they want to take notes they may send down some superior officers, if necessary, in plain clothes. As for the maintenance of peace, the journal declares that the organisers are well able to ensure that end.

BENGALIAN,
21st Aug. 1908.

1055. Commenting on the application of Mr. Osborne on behalf of the Crown, for an exemplary sentence in the sedition case against Ethiraj Surendranath Arya, of Madras, *Bande Mataram* says:—

BANDE MATARAM,
21st Aug. 1908.

"The bureaucracy in their blind rage against the patriotic speakers and writers always fail to see that in dealing severely with these men they themselves have been setting the people against them far more effectively than it lay in the power of the alleged offenders to do. The ill-feeling against the rulers must have increased tenfold in the country after the Government have made up their mind to such severe repression. The fact is that whatever the Government may do, the people will never be convinced that these patriotic activities constitute any criminal offence. The bureaucracy are well within their rights in revenging themselves on those whom they consider to be the enemies of their rule. But if they think that they will thereby allay the discontent in the country and draw the people to their side they are utterly mistaken. They will only be doing the reverse. They will create five hundred enemies where there were only ten or fifteen before. Neither is the idea that the prevention of such activities by severe punishment will put an end to the spread of further discontent at all sound. It is not always necessary that discontent should be spread by the spoken or written word. The very fact that the bureaucracy are putting down patriotic sentiments with a strong hand will alienate the people more and more from them and lead to the dissolution of all moral ties between the two."

BENGALIAN,
23rd Aug. 1908.

1056. The *Bengalee* wonders if it does not strike the authorities that the campaign against sedition upon which they have embarked is not exactly a thing that can be calculated to allay the unrest. With more than a dozen prosecutions for sedition perpetually going on in different parts of the country, it is but natural for people to think that things are in very bad way. In the majority of cases the people do not believe that the men convicted of sedition are really guilty.

The conditions under which trials for sedition are usually held are not calculated to inspire confidence in the minds of our countrymen as to the character of the justice that is meted out to the accused persons. The trial by jury is often a farce. The jurors in most cases know little or nothing of the language in which the incriminating articles are written or speeches made. The Judge, who presides at the trial, is often in the same position. Yet the fate of the accused depends absolutely upon the impression which these Judges and jurors form of the nature of articles which they cannot possibly understand. To expect the people to believe that justice can be fairly administered under these conditions is to expect what is impossible. That is a consideration which ought to induce the Government to think twice before they embark upon any prosecution of this character.

BENGALIEE,
25th Aug. 1908.

1057. Adverting to the recent prosecutions for sedition instituted at Madras and Bombay, the *Bengalee* writes:—

Sedition in Madras and Bombay. "If the Government is really bent upon following a policy of conciliation, we are constrained to say that it is weakening its own hands and that it is imperilling the prospects of success of a policy upon which the future of the country so largely depends. People in a state of intense excitement and dissatisfaction, are not in a fit mood to be soothed and conciliated. The best of gifts and concessions are discounted when coming from those who have given dire cause of offence. If the Government really wants to remove the soreness of feeling which prevails at present, then we must say that its present policy of wholesale prosecutions for sedition is suicidal. It is calculated to intensify the unrest and alienate the sympathies of even those who stand outside the pale of our political controversies."

BANDE MATARAM,
25th Aug. 1908.

1058. *Bande Mataram* declares that there was no justification for the recent order of the Chief Presidency Magistrate closing the public squares in Calcutta against meetings after dark, on the ground that human life is not safe at such gatherings. The journal wonders at the singular lack of humour which the Presidency Magistrate has shown by putting his signature to such a "funny" circular. This is a land of wonders and one more has been added to them.

BENGALIEE,
26th Aug. 1908.

1059. According to the *Bengalee* there seems to be a very strong feeling among the Indian community that the order of the Chief Presidency Magistrate of Calcutta closing the squares against public meetings after dark is based upon inadequate grounds. The order being *ex parte* and passed entirely upon police evidence, it was doubly incumbent on the Magistrate to satisfy himself that there was sufficient justification for it. Such justification is wanting in the present case.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
26th Aug. 1908.

1060. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* observes that the *Englishman* and the Madras Anglo-Indian papers have published the alleged seditious articles for which Mr. G. Subramania Iyer has been hauled up. The Indian journals, however, have not the privilege of reproducing them in their columns without running the risk of a prosecution under section 124A. Why is this invidious distinction? Is it because what is sauce for the gander is not sauce for the goose? Or, it is because when an Anglo-Indian paper publishes a seditious article, its seditious character at once disappears, but when it is published in an Indian journal, the poison only sticks to it the more.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
27th Aug. 1908.

1061. According to the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*, the prosecution of a man in the position of Mr. Subramania Iyer proves one of two things: Either the seditious poison has permeated all classes of the educated Indian public, or the Government has contracted a strange notion about sedition. The latter is regarded as the more reasonable explanation of the situation. But where is the man to convince Government of the unwisdom of its policy? By prosecuting a moderate man like Mr. Subramania, Government is only establishing the fact that India has become a land of sedition. Can this enhance the reputation of British rule in this country? But, as the authorities are just now not in a mood to listen to reason, it is mere waste of time and energy to try to argue a point with them.

BENGALIEE,
27th Aug. 1908.

1062. The *Bengalee* says it is an open secret that some of the Indian papers have been warned by Government not to reproduce articles which form the subject-matter of prosecutions for sedition. They have been told that by doing so they make themselves liable to the same punishment as if the articles had originally appeared in their columns. The journal would like very much to know if the Anglo-Indian press has been similarly warned. So far as its information goes, there is not a single leading Anglo-Indian paper which did not reproduce either the articles on which some of the recent prosecutions for sedition were based, or extracts from them. Even in the case of Mr. G. Subramaniya Iyar, the latest of such cases, some of the Anglo-Indian papers, among others the *Englishman*, have published extracts from the incriminating articles. The attention of the Government must have been drawn to the matter. If a warning had been conveyed to these papers at the time when it was conveyed to the Indian press, it is almost inconceivable that the offence should have been repeated within so short a time. Yet to have omitted to convey the warning to both classes of papers at the same time was to be guilty of conduct which the Government has always resented having imputed to it. The journal hopes an explanation will soon be forthcoming on this point. Government owes it to itself to explain matters, as nothing can be more prejudicial to its own interest at such a time as the present than that an impression should go forth that it is making an invidious distinction between the Indian and the Anglo-Indian press. Such an impression would necessarily weaken its hands and frustrate the policy it has at heart.

(d)—Education.

BANDE MATARAM,
20th Aug. 1908.

1063. According to *Bande Mataram*, the buying up of the private educational institutions by the bureaucratic University shows that whatever the Government may say or do, it cannot afford to lose control of the education of the country, it cannot afford to hand over this immense mass of material, the India of the future, into the hands of political leaders, without the subtle control and check which the membership of a Government University exercises, without the opportunity of unstringing the nerves of character and soul which the present system of education provides. The Government must keep its hold on the mind of the young or lose India. . . . "The bureaucracy, with its sanctimonious professions of anxiety for the best interests of students and guardians, is in reality planning a powerful attack on the growing spirit of nationalism at its most vital part. As such we must understand it and as such resist it."

(h)—General.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
21st Aug. 1908.

1064. In reply to this question, the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* says:—
"Well we hold that the first duty of the rulers is not the maintenance of order but the promotion of the happiness of the people. This is the highest duty of Government, and the maintenance of order is only a means to enable the authorities to carry out this function. . . . Our contention is that if the welfare of the people be the first consideration of the rulers, order is bound to result from the observance of such a rule. If a King subordinates the happiness of himself, his ministers, and his officials to that of the people over whom he rules, the bulk of the latter will never feel disposed to disturb the peace and create disorder. On the other hand, if in the name of the principle that the maintenance of law and order is the first duty of Government, the King's officers harass the people by fastening on them repressive measures and enforcing them pitilessly, not only do they defeat the very object of maintaining law and order but are calculated to help the growth of anarchy and confusion. This is evidently what is being done just now in almost every part of India, and every sincere lover of peace and order must deplore this state of things."

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
22nd Aug. 1908.

1065. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* says now that Sir Andrew Fraser has returned to town, the alarming condition of the people of Midnapore should engage His Honour's

Midnapore affairs.

serious attention. True, Khudiram Bose was born somewhere in the district, but that is no reason why innocent people residing in the town should suffer, specially as the former has been hanged and got rid of. The people of Midnapore owe their misfortune, it is alleged, simply to a police report that they have got a Secret Society there and that bombs were actually prepared by it with a view to make attempts on the life of Mr. Weston, the Magistrate. Absurd as the suggestion is, it weighs with the local authorities, and all attempts at disabusing them of its utter impossibility have failed. Even the Commissioner of the Division was approached by the leading men of the town, but in vain. They have now invited His Honour's attention to their hard lot praying for the deputation of an outside official who might give them a patient and impartial hearing and see things for himself. Their prayer is so just and reasonable that the journal has no doubt that His Honour will comply with it; and, in that case, it is quite sure the conspiracy theory will be found to have been the creation of imagination.

INDIAN NATION,
24th August 1908.

1066. The *Indian Nation* says:—

Plain speaking by the rulers.

We are glad that our rulers have been speaking out their mind on the present state of unrest. Sir George Clarke in Bombay, Sir Charles Bayley on his tour in Eastern Bengal, Sir Andrew Fraser on his tour in this province, Sir John Hewett in the United Provinces, have spoken elaborately and in no uncertain voice, and we are inclined to think that their speeches have already produced good effects and will produce more. We wish they had delivered themselves earlier, for we believe that then the mischief would have been averted earlier. When the public are not only misled, but in consequence of the misleading they begin to practise rowdyism, it is necessary that all men on the side of law and order should speak out, and particularly the rulers. The misleaders must not have it all their own way. We hope official pronouncements like those we have referred to, will continue from time to time, and will be made as often as occasion requires. Their effect cannot but be salutary. The people must have assurances of official good-will, and must at the same time be convinced of the determination of Government to put down lawlessness with a strong hand."

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
25th Aug. 1908.

1067. Commenting on the procedure usually adopted in England for quelling popular disturbances, the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* declares that the system in vogue in this

How they quell disturbances in England.

country as evidenced in the quelling of the recent Bombay disturbances, is unjustifiable and unnecessarily hard. Firing on mobs is a source of serious danger here as neither the police nor the military in this country exercise as much self-restraint as they do in England. The journal is consequently of opinion that the English law and procedure in the matter of quelling disturbances should be adopted in this country and unnecessary loss of life be thus prevented. This is required in the interests of both justice and humanity. It also trusts the Government of Bombay will be pleased to find its way to appointing a Commission to sift the recent deplorable incidents to the bottom and to publish the result of the enquiry for the information of the public. Such a course, if adopted, will go a long way to removing much misapprehension in this connection.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
26th Aug. 1908.

1068. Criticising the *Pioneer's* article headed "Executive and Judicial,"

Executive and Judicial separation.

the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* says that the basis of British rule in India is not in the rifle and the bayonet, nor in the arming of District Officers with irresistible and irresponsible powers from head to foot, but in making the people feel that the justice which the rulers administer is not only pure, but also above suspicion. And yet, it is a painful fact that the way in which justice is being administered especially in political cases, is giving a rude shock to the public. Indeed, the institution and trial of sedition cases have done unmitigated mischief in more ways than one. Instead of eradicating the evil for which these prosecutions were undertaken, they have only intensified and spread it far and wide. The results of the trials have not convinced the

people that the persons convicted are really guilty; on the other hand, they have converted such persons into heroes in popular eyes and evoked the deepest sympathy of the country for them. How can the administration of justice in their case be regarded as absolutely satisfactory when the juries who tried many of them were Europeans, not only utterly ignorant of the languages in which the incriminating articles were written but whose political views were diametrically opposed to those of the accused?

1069. The *Bengalee* is of opinion that there is nothing more indefensible in official practice than the annual exodus to the hills. It is at once costly and unnecessary. The

Monsoon tours.

exodus in fact illustrates, in its most exaggerated form, the evils of over-centralisation and absentee Government. It is an open avowal on the part of the Government of India that its members need know nothing of the people and need not keep in touch with the manifold activities of trade and commerce and movements of public opinion. The Government are not "at home," as it were, to the people for nearly eight months in the year. It is no argument to say that the members of the Government already know all about India. At any rate, the Viceroy does not; the Legal Member does not; the Finance Member may not, and the Commander-in-Chief may not. The tremendous responsibilities of the administration cannot be efficiently discharged by these exalted officials if in addition to their want of experience of Indian affairs they are to be further handicapped by being made to live for practically the greatest part their service in a remote hill station.

III.—LEGISLATION.

The Local Self-Government Bill.

1070. Commenting on the Local Self-Government Bill passed at the last meeting of the Bengal Council, the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* says:—

"The Indian members of the Council are regarded as ornamental figure-heads; but they could at least enter protests against the taxation measure and other mischievous provisions of the Bill, as also against the hurried manner in which it was passed. If starving millions in the rural tracts are to be taxed over again for their sanitation, may Heaven protect them! Here was an opportunity for Sir Andrew Fraser, on the eve of his departure from this country, to evoke the kindly and grateful feelings of the millions entrusted to his care, tens of thousands of whom die annually like flees for want of proper sanitary arrangements. The chaukidari tax is more than enough to drive many of them mad, and no one knows it better than Sir Andrew Fraser himself. In addition to this cruellest of taxes, they will have to pay another direct impost, in the name of sanitation, which, in the hands of many a Union Committee, may prove as vexatious and pitiless as did the chaukidari tax in those of Panchayets. The measure, however, has one redeeming feature for which we are deeply thankful to Government. We need hardly say that we mean the application of the Road Cess fund to its legitimate purposes. The bulk of the fund, as we have always urged, should be spent for drainage and water-supply purposes."

1071. While expressing its deep satisfaction that the Act has found a place in the Statute Book, the *Hindoo Patriot* cannot conclude without expressing its cordial acknowledgments to the Hon'ble Mr. Oldham, who piloted the Bill through the Council with great ability and a readiness that cannot be too highly praised to accede to the wishes of the popular representatives. It is considered highly gratifying that a great majority of the amendments proposed by the non-official members of the Council have been accepted by the member in charge of the Bill without the least demur. Mr. Oldham's pilotage of the measure has not left much to be desired. It is well that the self-governing bodies in Bengal have been provided with powers of taxation for carrying out sanitary improvements. Due safeguards have also been placed against improper taxation. All these reforms were conceived in the spirit of the best statesmanship. At the same time, the journal wishes that larger funds were available to the District Boards, which oftener than not plead poverty as a convenient excuse for not embarking upon much-needed improvements.

The Local Self-Government Act.

BENGAL, 27th Aug. 1908.

AMRITA BAZAR PATRIKA, 24th Aug. 1908.

HINDOO PATRIOT, 24th Aug. 1908.

VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

INDIAN NATION,
24th Aug. 1908.

1072. The *Indian Nation* fails to understand how Mr. Pal proposes to achieve liberty. It cannot sympathise with the threat that the inevitable revolution will have to be accomplished by violent means if the Govern-

Mr. Bepin Chandra Pal's continental tour.

ment does not give in. That *regime* cannot be very repressive which allows such sentiments to be uttered. Probably Mr. Pal did not mean to be serious, but only uttered a few brave words to show that he had not altogether ceased to be himself. His constitutional demands are a little too doctrinaire. Government has already been following a policy of *laissez faire*, except where a different policy is demanded in the interests of the people. If the policy had been uninterruptedly followed, where would there have been Trial by jury, or Self-government, or, say, even the Civil Marriage Act? As regards repeal of the Arms Act, have not Mr. Pal's friends made that innovation impossible? How would the Congress have fared last year at Surat if the opposing parties had been armed with swords and guns? And what would have been the character of the street riots in Umballa or Bombay? Trial by jury, of the exact type that prevails in England, will be fit for introduction when the people come to be of the exact type of Englishmen. Mr. Pal is greatly mistaken if he thinks that native juries will invariably acquit native prisoners. Incompetent or dishonest jurors can never be trusted. They may acquit or convict, but in either case they will be foolish or perverse.

BENGALEN,
27th Aug. 1908.

1073. The *Bengalee* desires to associate itself with the fresh appeal of

Babu Arabinda Ghose's case.

Babu Arabinda Ghose's sister for funds for her brother's defence. Nobody has a right to assume that Arabinda Ghose, or, indeed, any of the accused is guilty of the offences with which he is charged until they have been proved in a competent court of law. And in a case of such seriousness and gravity, where the parties themselves are unable to provide for their defence and where the State is straining every nerve to procure a conviction, it is the duty of every public-spirited citizen to contribute towards the defence of the accused. Such help would not imply the smallest sympathy with anarchism or lawlessness, but only an honourable desire to help men in trouble to vindicate their innocence.

OFFICE OF THE INSPR.-GENL.

OF POLICE, L. P.,

WRITERS' BUILDINGS,

The 29th August 1908.

G. C. DENHAM,

Spl. Asst. to the Depy. Insp.-Genl.

of Police, Crime and Railways, Bengal.